

Hafa Adai!

# Saipan Tribune

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## OPINION METER

**This week's poll:**  
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# NMI poker machines dip 59 percent

» **Reduction in SHEFA scholarship awards eyed**

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
[moneth\\_deposa@saipantribune.com](mailto:moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER



### NEW JETBRIDGE BOARDING ADAPTER

A passenger on a Cape Air flight exits the plane via the newly installed jetbridge boarding adapter at Gate 4 at the A.B. Won Pat Guam International Airport in Guam. Continental Airlines completed the installation and operation of the new jetbridge boarding adapter on Nov. 15, 2010. Passengers from the CNMI will no longer have to deplane on the runway and use the stairs when boarding and deplaning from a Cape Air flight. It was first used with inbound flight 9313 arriving from Saipan on Nov. 15.

See story on **Page 14**

The number of poker machines in the Commonwealth has dramatically declined in the last six years, cutting into the money that funds the islands' various scholarship programs.

Based on the latest figures presented to the Saipan Higher Educational Financial Assistance, there are only 576 active poker machines at present, just 41 percent of the 1,400 units that were registered in

2004. This means a drop of more than 800 registered units.

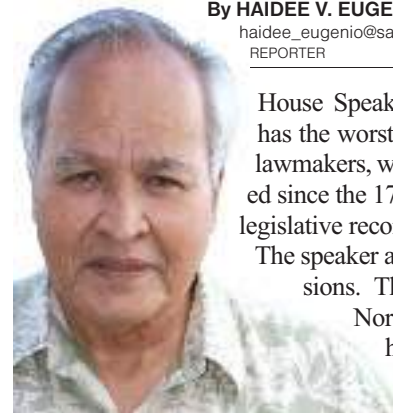
"There is a big drop in the number of poker machines when we first

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## AMONG 21 SAIPAN LAWMAKERS

### Froilan has worst attendance

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**  
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REPORTER



House Speaker Froilan C. Tenorio (Cov-Saipan) has the worst attendance record among 21 Saipan lawmakers, with only two of seven sessions attended since the 17th Legislature took office in January, legislative records show.

The speaker attended only the first and second sessions. The first one was when the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation held an election of officers, with Rep.

See **FROILAN** on **Page 4**

### Napolitano urged to intervene in 'deportation' of legal aliens

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**  
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REPORTER

The United Workers Movement-NMI is asking for the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of the Interior to look into the alleged deportation of legal alien workers by agents of Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

"It has come to our at-

tention that aliens who have legal status, including umbrella permits, have been referred to ICE agents for deportation by the CNMI Department of Labor," wrote president Rabby Syed in his letter to Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano.



Napolitano

Syed told *Saipan Tribune* that a copy of the letter was also sent to Assis-

See **NAPOLITANO** on **Page 4**



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# Local

## OPA upholds PSS rejection of bid in 2 school projects

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Office of the Public Auditor upheld the Public School System's rejection of Hong Electric Enterprises Inc.'s bid on the electrical upgrade at Hopwood Junior High School and Dandan Elementary School, saying the company's bid is non-responsive.

"The public auditor finds that PSS properly rejected appellant's bid as non-responsive," said Public Auditor Michael Pai in a five-page decision dated Oct. 26 but posted on OPA's website only on Sunday.

OPA said Hong Electric's

bid was twice rejected as non-responsive, first because its completion date exceeded that prescribed by the request for proposal and then because it had failed to sign a required Equal Employment Opportunity form.

On July 16, PSS procurement officer Robert Florian notified Hong Electric that its bid was being rejected as non-responsive since the completion time supplied was 125 days.

The following day, Hong Electric responded that it used the completion date supplied in Addendum 3, "150 days or best offer," and requested to change its completion date to 90 days.

Florian informed Hong Electric on July 20 that no bid modifications would be permitted. That same day, Hong Electric asked for clarification.

The following day, Florian sent Hong Electric another letter, informing it that its bid was rejected due to its failure to sign an EEO form contained in the bid package.

Hong Electric timely protested its bid the rejection by PSS as non-responsive, claiming that its proffered 125-day completion period met the bid's requirements.

It also contested PSS' rejection of its bid for failure to sign

the EEO form included in the bid package as a non-material non-conformity capable of being corrected after the bid was accepted.

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan denied Hong Electric's protest on Aug. 10.

Ten days later, Hong Electric timely appealed to OPA because of an ambiguity in the expected completion date in Addendum 3. In the question-and-answer section of Addendum 3, PSS twice stated that the expected completion date was 90 days.

But in the scope of work appended to the Q&A in Addendum 3, the "performance period

See OPA on Page 4



A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority  
*Tourism is everybody's business.*

## Hell of the Marianas 2010

This Saturday (Dec. 4), the **Hell of the Marianas Century Cycle Race** returns to the Northern Marianas for its fourth consecutive year, attracting 150 competitors from **Japan, Korea, Russia, Australia, Guam** and the **Northern Marianas**. This race comes by its name honestly—the course takes participants up the highest mountain in the world! Mount Everest has nothing on Saipan's Mount Tapochau, with its base starting 37,000 feet beneath sea level. The precipitous ridge, laced with numerous tortuous climbs, dominates this rugged tropical island course.

Sponsored by the **Pacific Islands Club (PIC) Saipan**, with support from **Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA)** and the **Northern Mariana Islands Triathlon Federation**, the 100km cycling course appeals to all levels of bicyclists: novices can join a team of four, each riding 25km; intermediate level riders participate as a team of two, riding 50km each; and the avid cyclist tackles the 100km race solo.

Drivers are urged to exercise caution on the roads that morning, as the course starts at PIC Saipan at 6:15 a.m. and traverses to Marpi and back.

The Hell of the Marianas received a **Tourism Industry Excellence Award** from the MVA as **Most Outstanding Tourism Attraction** in Fiscal Year 2009.

For more information about the race, call PIC Saipan at 1.670.237.5148 or e-mail [seaexec@picsaipan.com](mailto:seaexec@picsaipan.com) or [dosm@picsaipan.com](mailto:dosm@picsaipan.com).



This Tourism Tuesday space is provided by Saipan Tribune

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## NMC looks for more instructors

The Northern Marianas College has announced 13 positions that

### Ex-cop in 'ice' trafficking case asks court for substance abuse evaluation

The prosecution and defense lawyer of a former police officer who had been indicted on meth trafficking charges asked the federal court yesterday to order the suspect to undergo substance abuse evaluation, instead of medical evaluation.

Michael N. Evangelista, counsel for former police officer Florencio Q. Richards, and assistant U.S. attorney James Benedetto agreed to request the U.S. District Court for the NMI to amend its order issued on Nov. 8, 2010.

In his Nov. 8 order, U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Robert Naraja directed Richards to undergo a medical examination to determine his possible addiction to narcotics.

Evangelista and Benedetto, however, agreed that such a determination can be made by a substance abuse assessment and evaluation, rather than a full medical evaluation.

Evangelista and Benedetto also agreed that the substance abuse assessment and evaluation will be conducted by the Community Guidance Center on Saipan.

Richards has pleaded not guilty to the charges. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

### Woman who gets 7 yrs. in 'ice' case appeals to the 9th Circuit

A woman who was sentenced to more than seven years in prison for possession of "ice" with intent to distribute and for violating probation conditions is appealing her conviction to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

George Anthony Long, counsel for Julita Sablan, filed on Friday a notice of appeal in the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

Long said Sablan has appealed to the Ninth Circuit to reverse the sentence order issued by visiting judge Mark W. Bennett.

Bennett sentenced Sablan to 70 months in prison for the "ice" conviction and 15 months for violating supervised release conditions in her previous case.

The judge ordered that the two sentences be served consecutively for a total of 85 months (seven years and one month).

The charges stem from a seven-count indictment that charged Sablan and co-defendant Roque Norita with drug conspiracy and other drug trafficking crimes. It was Sablan's third conviction. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

are up for grabs, including five for instructors.

According to its website, the college needs full-time instructors for early childhood education, reading, language and humanities, nursing and sciences.

NMC is also gathering a pool of adjunct—or part time—instructors for its School of Education, Business, Sciences, Math and Social Sciences, Fine Arts, Health and Physical Education.

Part-time instructors are also needed for non-traditional

courses such as the Community Development Institute, Adult Basic Education, and General Educational Development.

Seven non-teaching positions also need to be filled. These include an administrative manager for the School of Education, director for the Office of Information Tech-

nology, enrolment manager for Office of Admissions and Records, and extension aide for NMC-CREES program.

NMC is also looking for a financial aid counselor, marketing manager for the office of Institutional Advancement,

an outreach counselor for middle school, and an outreach counselor for Tinian and Rota high schools.

Other vacant positions are that of the college president and chief financial and administrative officer.

As of September, NMC has 86 instructors: 35 full-time and 51 adjunct. According to the college, it has a student-to-faculty ratio of 20:1 this Fall semester. This Fall, NMC has 1,234 students. (*Moneth G. Deposa*)

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# After a year of federalization, still no worker, investor regs

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The first year anniversary of the Nov. 28, 2009, federal takeover of CNMI immigration came and went during the weekend but the federal government has yet to issue regulations governing foreign investors and foreign workers in the Commonwealth.

"Governor [Benigno] Fitial continues to urge federal officials to promulgate the necessary regulations to ensure that the local government is adequately prepared for its implementation," press secretary Angel Demapan said when asked for



Fitial

comment.

Fitial, who sued the federal government last year over federalization, came back last week from a meeting two weeks ago with Region 9 federal agencies but topics discussed were not about federalization.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security missed its self-imposed deadlines for the issuance of these two regulations: the investor rules in July and worker rules in September.

In the CNMI, every single day that the federal regulations are not released to guide employers and workers, means another day that investors can't invest, businesses can't ex-

pand or hire workers, and guest workers can't decide whether to stay or leave.

The employers, employees, the government and virtually every sector in the CNMI share the frustration over delays in the release of these regulations.

In other news, the governor has not made any action yet related to the termination of Ambrosio Ogumoro as deputy commissioner for the Department of Public Safety.

"The governor is reviewing this matter," the press secretary said when asked for comment.

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos concurred with DPS Commissioner Santiago Tudela's termination of Ogumoro two weeks ago over his alleged retaliation against some DPS employees and having an

expired employment status.

Inos earlier acknowledged that Fitial may reinstate Ogumoro, like what he did on July 7 following Ogumoro's

May 19 dismissal.

He, however, said he will recommend to Fitial to appoint Ogumoro to an agency other than DPS.

## NAPOLITANO

From Page 1

tant Secretary for Insular Affairs Tony Babauta and Interior Secretary Ken Salazar.

Syed questioned the processing of the deportation of these legal alien workers since they have valid umbrella permits issued them prior to the implementation of P.L. 110-229, the Consolidated Natural Resources Act, which placed CNMI immigration under federal control.

According to Syed, most of these alien workers being pursued by ICE agents have ongoing outstanding cases.

"If the U.S. recognizes umbrella permits or has approved foreigners in the CNMI to apply for parole in place as

[the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services] has stated, then why is another federal agency going against the U.S. stand?" he asked.

Syed said the law recognizes the validity of the Labor-issued umbrella permits for two years, which makes the permits effective until Nov. 27, 2011.

He said this was discussed during the public meeting conducted by Labor Ombudsman Pamela Brown and the Employment Authorization and Verification in the CNMI document issued by DHS and USCIS last March.

"These aliens are protected under the grandfather clause and are authorized to remain in the CNMI until the expiration of any CNMI status or until Nov. 27, 2011, whichever happens first," he said.

Syed also questioned the Certification of Illegal Status executed in March

by then acting Labor secretary Cinta Kaipat.

Per DHS and USCIS, the CNMI government lost all authority to revoke, amend or issue any further permits to alien workers in the Commonwealth, he explained.

Syed also said there are a few individuals recommended for deportation that have already attended an immigration court hearing sometime in October or November.

Although it is a small number, Syed fears that the number of alien workers that are requested to attend hearings about their status will increase if DHS will not verify the interpretation of the law.

"We want to get a crystal clear opinion from the Interior and Homeland Security so that these things will not happen again," he said.

## FROILAN

From Page 1

Ray Tebuteb (R-Saipan) winning the chairmanship.

After the Feb. 3 and March 4 sessions, the speaker was no longer attending succeeding delegation sessions.

"What has the delegation accomplished so far? Nothing. That's why I don't attend sessions anymore. I don't have a problem with the chairman but the delegation has not accomplished anything," Tenorio told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

He cited as an example a local bill he introduced back in January that has yet to pass the delegation.

The speaker also said the Rota delegation has been appropriating money almost every other month, but the Saipan delegation seldom does.

"When was the last time the Saipan delegation appropriated local money?" he asked.

While Tenorio had the most absences, nine Saipan lawmakers had perfect attendance, led by chairman Tebuteb.

"It is absolutely necessary to be present during sessions, especially to participate in critical discussions like appropriations for lawmakers' precinct and constituents. I highly recommend that members attend every session because everybody's input is important," Tebuteb said yesterday.

When asked for comment on the speaker's absenteeism, the delegation chairman said it is the speaker's prerogative to show up or not.

"Sometimes the speaker relays his reason for being absent through other members, and sometimes I do not get any notice at all that he will be absent,"

he said.

Besides Tebuteb, the other members with perfect attendance include Vice Speaker Felicidad Ogumoro (Cov-Saipan), Rep. Ray Basa (Cov-Saipan), Rep. Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan), Rep. Rafael Demapan (Cov-Saipan), Senate floor leader Pete P. Reyes (R-Saipan), Rep. Tony Sablan (R-Saipan), Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan) and Rep. Ray Yumul (R-Saipan).

Yumul, in a phone interview yesterday, said, "It helps to be present every time there's a session" so that a member can participate in deliberations on precinct appropriations, among other things.

The Saipan delegation oversees the appropriation of some \$3.7 million annually. In fiscal year 2010, for example, the delegation oversaw the distribution of \$3.5 million in collection from poker license fees and some \$240,000 in collection from the Saipan developer's tax.

"The legislative effectiveness of a lawmaker can be measured by his influence on the legislative process, and you can do that when you participate in deliberations and vote on legislation. It's also in the delegation where you discuss project appropriations for the precinct you represent so yes, it helps to be present every session," Yumul said.

Yumul, the chairman of the delegation's Ways and Means Committee, said it's during delegation sessions that funding for Saipan scholarship, road paving, basketball court construction or repair and other village projects are discussed.

Saipan lawmakers who had three absences or half of the sessions called were Rep. Frederick P. Deleon Guer-

rero (Ind-Saipan) and Sen. Luis Crisostimo (D-Saipan). Deleon Guerrero underwent medical operation in Manila, the Philippines early this year, which was the reason for his absences during the sessions.

Rep. Sylvester Iguel (Cov-Saipan) and Sen. Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) had two absences each.

Iguel, when asked for comment, said he would not want to miss sessions but family emergencies—specifically deaths in the family—forced him to miss the sessions.

"Were it not for deaths in the family, I would not want to be absent from sessions," he said.

But Iguel said lawmakers' effectiveness is not measured solely by their perfect attendance during sessions, but their actual contributions or assistance to their precincts in particular and the CNMI in general.

Those who missed only one of seven sessions were House minority leader Diego Benavente (R-Saipan), floor leader George Camacho (Ind-Saipan), Rep. Frank Dela Cruz (R-Saipan), Rep. Joseph Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan), Rep. Joseph Palacios (R-Saipan), Rep. Raymond Palacios (Cov-Saipan), and Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan).

Besides Feb. 3 and March 4, the other sessions were held on April 13, May 28, June 24, Oct. 22, and Nov. 23.

The first delegation session was called on Jan. 27, but only nine of 21 members showed up because it was boycotted mostly by Covenant Party members and independents. At least 11 members are needed to have a quorum. That session was not counted in the attendance check; thus the first session was on Feb. 3.

## OPA

From Page 2

[was] 150 days or best offer."

OPA said the term "best offer" is either meaningless or confusing when part of an IFB. In an IFB, if a bidder meets the specifications contained therein and is a responsive and responsible lowest bidder, it should be awarded a contract, OPA said.

The public auditor said the phrase "best offer" implies balancing evaluative criteria as contained in a request for purchase, not an IFB. This, this phrase might have warranted a question from the contractors on its own, but it was clearly usurped by the very

## POKER

From Page 1

established SHEFA in 2004. From over 1,400 units, we only have 576 active machines that provide us the funding for our scholars," said newly elected board chair Jose Mafnas.

The SHEFA board had no immediate information on where the unregistered machines are, whether they've been pulled out from the island, lying idle, or operating illegally.

Mafnas said the board may be forced to reduce the amount of financial assistance to scholars or cut the number of program recipients just so they could accommodate the needs of students.

"We have to slice the pie...and that's the board's priority in its next meetings. Funding is the challenge here and we need to take action," he said.

Mafnas believes the delay in the issuance of financial aids to students was a result of the "too many" recipients and "unrealistic" grant award set by the program.

He pointed out that since the program's inception six years ago, SHEFA has been offering the same number of scholarship grants and awards despite the dramatic decline in government revenues every year.

He said he will propose a reduction in the grant awards for scholars to reflect the true fiscal condition of the program.

### Fewer machines

Mafnas told the board that for the current fiscal year, the government granted licenses to a total of 579 poker machines, of which three recently did not renew.

The government had projected to collect from these active machines \$6.912 million in revenues in fiscal year 2010.

There were some 1,414 poker machines in the CNMI in late 2005, contributing some \$16.4 million to government coffers.

Poker operators pay a \$12,000 annual license fee for each machine on Saipan and \$10,000 on Rota and Tinian. The Saipan local government gets 50 percent of the license fee or \$6,000, while Tinian and Rota local governments get \$4,000 from each machine. The rest of the money goes to the general revenue fund.

clear directives in the Q&A section, the public auditor also said.

OPA said Hong Electric disregarded an explicit directive to disregard the performance period and instead submitted a bid based on the performance period.

"While there were ambiguities in the solicitation and its addendums, they do not rise to the level to justify a re-bid of the solicitation. The performance period in Item No. 7.0 is irrelevant because bidders were instructed to disregard it," the public auditor said.

OPA also said that the current solicitation is an IFB, a sealed bid, where modification of bids is limited and negotiations prohibited.

SHEFA is appropriated \$3 million each year from these poker licenses and related revenues.

### Unrealistic

Mafnas described as "unrealistic" the amount of awards it provides against the actual funds received.

"We need to change the program [offerings] due to the dwindling funds. Let's be realistic here, we cannot afford to provide the same grant awards we set six years ago," said Mafnas.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that of the 900 applications received by SHEFA this year, the board approved 628 students to avail of the scholarship program.

As of early this month, a total of 383 checks have been released to scholars while over 200 checks are still pending.

According to board member Maggie Camacho, SHEFA awards two types of assistance.

Grant-in-aid is a type of financial assistance available to a student from Saipan pursuing postsecondary education in U.S. accredited colleges or universities. If a grant recipient does not return to Saipan after completion of his or her studies, the grant automatically becomes a loan and the grant recipient must repay the SHEFA fund plus interest.

Camacho said this grant award amounts to \$1,200 for on-island and \$2,000 for off-island per semester.

A SHEFA scholarship is a type of financial assistance that is available to a student from Saipan pursuing postsecondary education based on financial need, academic achievement, and other established criteria. This program covers priority fields of study and recipients are provided \$2,000 in financial assistance every semester.

Camacho and other board members agreed to revisit the program offerings to reflect the actual figures on hand. The board, however, was not ready to give projected figures or percentage for the planned reduction.

SHEFA was created primarily to provide supplemental financial assistance to qualified Saipan and Northern Mariana Islands residents attending postsecondary, trade, and technical schools. The board is responsible for the overall administration of SHEFA and the spending authority of funds appropriated by Saipan Northern Islands Legislative Delegation.



# CUC vows to meet reorganization plan deadline today

» **EPA concerns CUC will fail again**  
» **CUC calls EPA comment inappropriate**

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has vowed to submit its final reorganization plan by today's deadline, even as it described as "inappropriate" the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's comment that CUC may possibly fail to meet the deadline.

While EPA disapproved CUC's first submission, this does not mean the utilities agency will fail to re-submit its final reorganization plan by today, Nov. 30, said CUC counsel Deborah E. Fisher.

CUC believes it was inappropriate for EPA to preemptively comment on an interim failure of an item not yet due, said Fisher in her Tuesday letter to a federal court judge, EPA counsel, and Attorney General Edward Buckingham.

The stipulated order and the second joint stipulation between CUC and EPA require CUC to submit an organizational evaluation and reorganization plan, complete with a detailed schedule, to improve the agency's efficiency and reflect organizational changes.

EPA counsel Bradley R.

O'Brien notified the U.S. District Court for the NMI on Nov. 13 that the organizational evaluation CUC submitted on Oct. 15, 2010, did not satisfy the stipulated order and second joint stipulation requirements.

O'Brien said that CUC's submission was not a full and complete organizational evaluation, reorganization plan, and detailed schedule.

Instead, what CUC submitted was a progress report describing CUC's process of evaluating its organization, he said.

"Given the incompleteness of CUC's Oct. 5, 2010, submission and the additional time CUC estimated for completing its evaluation, EPA is concerned that CUC will not satisfy the Nov. 30, 2010 deadline," O'Brien said.

In response, Fisher said the purpose of notification letters is not to give EPA an ability to preemptively comment on events that have not occurred, but to allow EPA or CUC to outline their own concerns about meeting a deadline before that deadline arrives.

"EPA's dissatisfaction with a prior submission made by CUC notwithstanding, CUC is still entitled to make its final submission by Nov. 30, 2010, and it intends to make this submission

on time," said Fisher.

She said CUC has been working to identify and allocate the funding that will be required on behalf of the reorganizational plan.

"One of CUC's big questions is who will be hired first as it implements the plan: and whether it will move people up first or hire new people first, as well as how it will move down or out those employees who do not meet the requirements," Fisher said.

## Trial begins for Tinian rape suspect; 2nd suspect pleads guilty

The jury trial of a man accused of kidnapping and raping a drunk woman at a Tinian cemetery began yesterday, with the suspect's co-defendant agreeing to a plea bargain on Friday.

Superior Court Associate

Judge David A. Wiseman presided over the jury selection yesterday on Tinian in the case against Kurt B. King. Jury selection for the second set of panel of prospective jurors will continue today.

Ramon Quichocho is counsel

for the 30-year-old King. Assistant attorney general Brian Gallagher is prosecuting the case.

King's co-defendant, Joseph Ray Arriola Jr., 21, entered a guilty plea on Friday as part of a plea bargain. He has not been sentenced yet.

The victim alleged that she and her friends had been drinking at a club in December 2009 when King grabbed her and, together with Arriola, brought her to the cemetery where they raped her. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

## CUC: 6 new employees in Dec., new deputy director by Jan. 11

Seven new individuals are expected to join the workforce of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. soon, according to the agency's human resource manager, Frankie Cepeda.

He said six persons would be hired by Dec. 31 when their contracts are fully executed. These new employees are required by federal stipulated orders.

Cepeda said the new hires are expected to be assigned to Saipan's water and wastewater division.

Besides the six individuals, CUC is also expected to name a deputy director soon.

Cepeda confirmed that an offer has been made to a qualified applicant but nothing has been finalized as of Friday.

The HR manager said the deputy director will start work on Jan. 11, 2011.

CUC executive director

Abe Utu Malae told *Saipan Tribune* that, although an offer has already been made, no contract has been executed yet between the parties.

"There is no contract yet as we are still trying to iron out terms," Malae said.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that two applicants from off-island visited the utilities firm last month as part of the recruitment process.

Cepeda explained that that the Nov. 20 deadline for the hiring of a deputy director was a self-imposed target.

The qualified applicant for deputy director will receive \$120,000 annual wage excluding benefits.

Yesterday, CUC also announced the need for a new technical manager for oil—a position left vacant by William Sword, who resigned from the post effective end of December. *(Moneth Deposa)*



## PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairwoman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that the Special Meeting of the Board is scheduled on **Saturday, December 4, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. at the NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan**. The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance.

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
  - a. Call to Order
  - b. Roll Call
- II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
- III. ADOPTION OF MINUTE
  - a. October 09, 2010 – Special Board Meeting Minute
- IV. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
  - a. Project Status Update
- V. PROGRAM & HOUSING
- VI. MORTGAGE CREDIT PROGRAM
  - a. Loan Conversion Request
  - b. Payment Assistance Request
  - c. Loan/Grant Applications for Board's Approval
  - d. NSP Project Update
- VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS
- VIII. FIELD OFFICE REPORTS
- IX. FISCAL AFFAIRS
  - a. RD Settlement Report
  - b. Financial Statements
- X. EXECUTIVE SESSION
- XI. OTHER MATTERS
- XII. ADJOURNMENT

(Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

/s/ MARCIE M. TOMOKANE  
Chairwoman of the Board

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# Search on for 4 missing mariners in Marshall Islands

HONOLULU—The U.S. Coast Guard is assisting in the search for four mariners in a 15-foot boat reported missing near Majuro, in the Republic of the Marshall Islands Saturday.

The U.S. Embassy in Majuro contacted watchstanders at the Coast Guard Joint Rescue Coordination Center at 3pm Friday for help in creating search patterns using the drift search and

rescue optimal planning system. Search patterns will provide local rescue assets a better sense of the missing mariners possible location based on currents and weather.

A sea patrol boat from the Marshall Islands is searching, as is a private aircraft.

At 1pm Saturday, the JRCC was contacted again by the U.S. Embassy requesting assets to as-

sist in the search. A Coast Guard HC-130 aircrew from Barbers Point launched at 3pm Saturday. The C-130 search plane has conducted more than 6,900 square mile search pattern.

The four missing mariners were on their way from Arno Atoll to Majuro in a 15-foot aluminum hull boat that departed Thursday, then failed to arrive at their destination. (USCG)

## Preposition ships hold training on Saipan

By JUSTIN L. BENNETT  
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Beginning yesterday, 175 military personnel from the San Diego-based Naval Beach Group 1 and the Williamsburg, Va.-based Navy Cargo Handling Battalion 1 went aboard Saipan-based ships USNS 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Jack Lummus and USNS 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Harry L. Martin of the Mari-

time Preposition Ship Squadron 3 to conduct critical training in offloading an MPF ship at sea.

The mission of a Military Preposition Force, or MPF, ship is to quickly and efficiently deliver military cargo and supplies to a designated area in response to a crisis or humanitarian disaster. There are currently five MPF ships in the Guam and Saipan area.

MPF ships are part of the U.S. Navy's Military Sealift Command, the ocean transportation provider for the Department of Defense and operates up to 45 non-combatant ships in the Western Pacific and Indian Oceans.

While anchored on Saipan's Garapan Harbor, Lummus and Martin will deploy and construct a Roll-on/Roll-off Discharge Facility, a system of intercon-

nected, floating platforms used to stage military cargo at sea. The RRDF allows the offload of military vehicles such as tanks, recovery vehicles, tractor/trailers, and forklifts from a roll-on/roll-off merchant ship onto a motorized barge, called literage, which then transfers the vehicles to the beach. The training is scheduled to be completed Dec. 10. No cargo will be brought

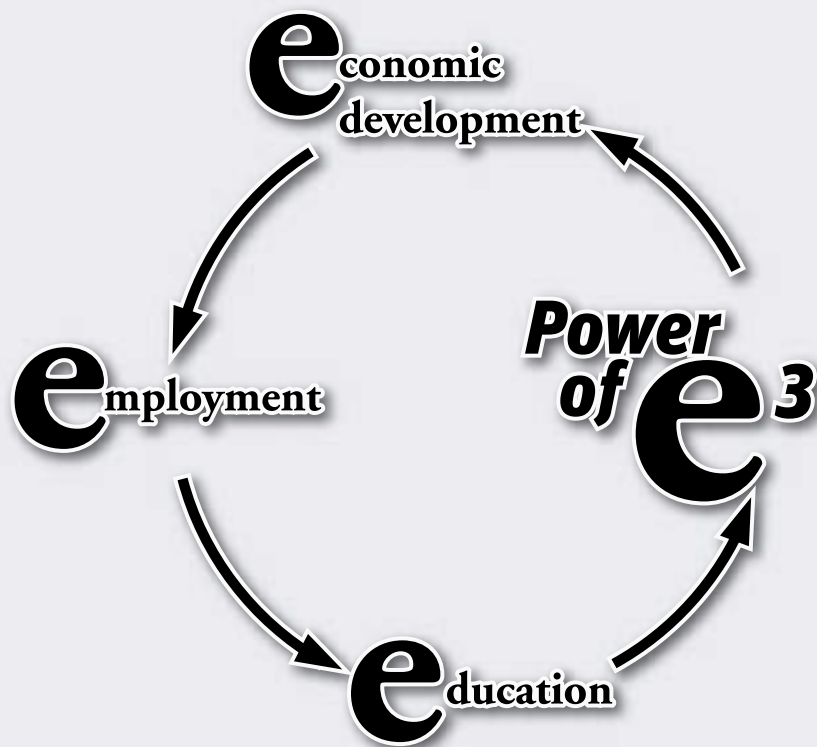
ashore during the exercise.

"The calm sea state of the Garapan Harbor was one of the reasons why we chose this location for this important training," said Capt. Herman Awai, commander of MPSRON 3. "This training will allow for new personnel to be introduced to the rich culture and kindness of Saipan while meeting their needed training to maintain proficiency."

The construction of the RRDF provides vital training to prepare participating commands for real-world events or major theater exercises. The RRDF will be deployed during an actual, at-sea cargo offload in Thailand next year.

Ensign Justin L. Bennett is with the Maritime Preposition Ship Squadron 3.

## NOTICE TO CNMI VETERANS



WIA in partnership with the CNMI Veterans Affairs Office and the Guam Department of Labor Disabled Veterans Outreach Program (DVOP) will be conducting outreach activities to all CNMI veterans as follows.

**Presenters:** Jackie Nyugen, DVOP Coordinator, Guam Department of labor  
Dr. Edward L. Santos, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor

### Schedules:

**Rota:** November 29-30, 2010 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Venue: WIA Rota Office (please contact WIA Rota Office at 532-1701 to reserve for either session)

**Saipan (please contact WIA at 664-1708 / 1757 / 1705 / 1707 to register for either session)**

### December 01, 2010, WIA Office

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon 1st session  
1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. 2nd session

### December 02, 2010, WIA Office

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon 1st session  
1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. 2nd session

**Tinian:** December 3, 2010 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Venue: NMC Tinian Campus

*This ad is paid for by federal funds under the USDOL Employment and Training Administration.*

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
**Board of Parole**  
P.O. BOX 502641, SAIPAN, MP 96950-2641  
TEL. NOS.: (670) 664-3300, 3304 • FAX: (670) 664-3310  
e-mail: govhop@pticom.com

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the CNMI Board of Parole Office, and pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section II of the "Open Government Act of 1992", Notice is hereby given that a **Preliminary Hearing** is scheduled for **December 07, 2010, (Tuesday)** at 10:00 a.m., at the CNMI Board of Parole Office, Capitol Hill Road, Building Number 1216, Saipan. The following individual(s) will appear before the Hearing Examiner:

### A. Parolee

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 1. ILO, George | Cr. Cs. No.: 03-0253D<br>BOP No.: 09-003 |
|----------------|--|

If you have any question or information, please call the Parole Office at telephone number 664-3300 or 3302.

/s/ Rose Ada Hocog  
Hearing Examiner

November 26, 2010  
Date

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Effective November 22, 2010

**Francisco C. Matsunaga**

is no longer employed with  
MARIANAS PACIFIC (MAR-PAC)  
DISTRIBUTORS, Saipan.

Any transaction made or entered by **Francisco C. Matsunaga** after this date will not be honored.

We appreciate your patronage and regret any inconvenience.



# Salvation Army kicks off 2010 Christmas Kettle program

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Salvation Army has already kicked off its 2010 Christmas Kettle Program, with their primary kettle site located at Joeten Superstore.

The Christmas Kettle Program is an annual fundraising activity established by a Salvation Army captain in San Francisco in 1891 in

which volunteers called kettle ringers ring bells and solicit spare change donations from holiday shoppers.

The donation is placed on a red kettle bearing a Salvation Army sticker and set up at a chosen location.

Ministry leader Wayne Gillespie said the Christmas Kettle Program begins during Thanksgiving season, and concludes on Dec. 24 or during

Christmas Eve.

Gillespie said the kettle ringers will greet shoppers with "Happy Holidays" until Dec. 4 then switch to "Merry Christmas" greetings afterwards.

He said there is a food box located beside the red kettle for those who prefer to donate non-perishable food instead of cash.

Gillespie told *Saipan Tribune* that the money and food they receive in the Christmas Kettle

program will be used for their feeding program.

According to Gillespie, they will also conduct their annual Toy Drive program in conjunction with the Christmas Kettle.

He said the important part of their Toy Drive program is the Angel Tree program, in which various establishments are invited to set up and decorate Christmas trees and ask their

customers to donate Christmas gifts for the less fortunate members of the community and place them under the Angel Tree.

Gillespie said Bank of Hawaii has already agreed to be a sponsor for this year's Angel Tree program.

He encouraged other organizations and institutions to take part in their toy and food drives.

"The Salvation Army is always in need of food donations, in order to supply our food assistance programs and the food drives conducted during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays are important because they shore up dwindling supplies," he said.

For more information about the food and toy drives of The Salvation Army, call Wayne Gillespie at 483-0885.

## Coca-Cola awards first batch of prizes in Christmas giveaway promo

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Coca-Cola gave away various prizes for the first raffle drawing of its Open Happiness Holiday Giveaways promotion on Nov. 26 at Joeten Shopping Center in Susupe.

Prizes awarded winners included gift certificates, hotel stay, PlayStation Portable, and Wii Sports.

Lory L. Taisakan hoped to take home the Wii Sports but instead won \$500 worth of gift certificates from Joeten Shopping Center, the biggest prize for the first raffle draw.

"I am thankful I did win. I am looking forward to joining again," said Taisakan.

Alsree Chiong, who had nine entry forms for the promo, took home an overnight stay certificate with dinner and lunch at Hyatt Regency Saipan.

A maintenance personnel at WESTCO, Chiong said he was thankful for winning again this year as he also won Hyatt gift certificates last year.

IT&E accountant Marie Cris Bucalig said she was happy to receive the PSP Gran Tur-



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Transpacific International Inc. group business manager Glen D. Hunter, left, awards the first batch of prizes for the Coca-Cola Open Happiness Holiday Giveaways promo at Joeten Shopping Center in Susupe last Nov. 26. From left, Hunter; winners Alsree Chiong, Marie Cris Bucalig and children, Tina Reyes, Lory L. Taisakan, and Antonie Santos; and Coca-Cola Beverage Co. (Micronesia) Inc. sales supervisor Gerry Hemley.

ismo prize. "This is an early Christmas gift for my kids," she added.

Anthonie Santos, a civil engineer at Double A Corporation, said it was his first time to win in a raffle draw in 15 years.

"I'm so glad I won. I never expected it," said Santos who won a PSP Portable 3000 series.

The Open Happiness Holiday Giveaways promo is open to Saipan residents 18 years or older and runs until Dec. 30.

To join, buy any 6-can pack, 12-can pack or 24-pack Coca-Cola products of any flavor and receive one entry form for 6-pack, three entry forms for 12-pack, and six forms for 24-pack.

Send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Coca-Cola Beverage Company (Micronesia) Inc., P.O. Box 500266, Saipan, MP 96950 to receive an entry form without purchasing Coca-Cola products.

Transpacific International Inc. group business manager Glen D. Hunter expressed his appreciation to those who supported the holiday promo.

"Keep sending in your coupons. We will be holding a big raffle drawing on Dec. 30 where more prizes await the lucky winners," he said.

## PSS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FLU VACCINATION CAMPAIGN

### School Vaccination Schedule

**November 30th – Tuesday, 8 AM**  
GTC Elementary School  
Tanapag Elementary School

**December 1st – Wednesday, 8 AM**  
WSR Elementary School

**December 2nd – Thursday, 8 AM**  
Oleai Elementary School

**December 3rd – Friday, 8 AM**  
San Vicente Elementary School

**December 6th – Monday, 8 AM**  
Kagman Elementary School

**December 7th – Tuesday, 8 AM**  
Garapan Elementary School

**December 10th – Friday, 8 AM**  
San Antonio Elementary School

**December 13th, Monday 8 AM**  
Dandan Elementary School

**Rota and Tinian Elementary School Schedules are being finalized.**

*Students and school staff who want to receive their flu vaccine can get in line!*

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**Visit any health clinic to get vaccinated.**



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 Saipan, MP 96950



## NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A QUALIFYING CERTIFICATE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that:

- A. Filing of application.** *Sandy Beach Homes, LLC*, (the "Applicant"), has filed its application with the Commonwealth Development Authority for a Qualifying Certificate under the Investment Incentive Act of 2000, as amended (4 CMC §3301, et seq.).
- B. Address.** The address of the Applicant is *Chalan Kanoa*, municipality of *Saipan*, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands *96950*.
- C. Proposed investment.** The Applicant intends to invest approximately *\$28.2 million* to *construct a residential complex* located at *Chalan Kanoa*, municipality of *Saipan*, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
- D. Benefits sought.** The Applicant is applying for tax relief provided by the Investment Incentive Act of 2000, as amended (4 CMC §3301, et seq.) as follows:

Nature of Tax:	Percentage Requested:	Period Requested:
<i>Developer Infrastructure Tax (abatement)</i>	<i>100 %</i>	<i>During construction period.</i>
<i>Excise Tax (abatement)</i>	<i>100 %</i>	<i>During construction period.</i>

/s/ Manuel A. Sablan  
 Executive Director

*Pursuant to Qualifying Certificate Rules and Regulations, this ad is paid by the Applicant*

## Fund bats for larger govt contributions

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
 moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
 REPORTER

Due to the failed effort to pass a legislative initiative that proposed to float up to \$200 million bond, the NMI Retirement Fund is looking at a higher contribution rate from the government so it could pay off its millions of debt with the agency.

In a statement issued Friday, the Fund said that Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos and Fund officials met with members of the Senate and House of Representatives in order to discuss the Fund's fiscal condition.

The meeting took up the defeat of the pension obligation bond and other steps that could be taken in order to address the Fund's financial needs.

"The steps discussed included increasing contribution payments to the Fund, the paramount concern of the Fund; various proposed legislation to clarify problematic areas within the pension program; and other immediate reforms necessary to further protect and increase the Fund's assets, including those illustrated in the 5-Point Plan," the Fund statement said.

Fund administrator Richard Villagomez urged the Legislature and the Fitial administration to increase contribution amounts to the Fund and control or decrease Fund payouts. "Doing only one of these will make saving the Fund even harder; but addressing both simultaneously will ensure the Fund's viability and ability to payout to the last beneficiary standing," the statement quoted Villagomez as saying.

According to board chair Sixto Igisomar, he is optimistic the Legislature will take the necessary actions to prevent the Fund's collapse.

"We look forward to continue working with the Legislature because some retirement laws need to be changed and we all must work together in order to address the Fund's survivability," said Igisomar.

At the meeting, the Fund used graphs and charts to show the trend in the Fund's assets and drawdowns, as prepared by the Fund's investment consultant.

They also illustrated examples of reforms prepared by the Fund's actuary on how to bring the pension program into balance if contribution amounts are not increased.

"The outcome of the meeting was very positive and the administration is prepared to offer whatever assistance will be needed in order to help save the pension program," said Inos. "This can only happen if we collaborate and work as a team; something everyone at our meetings pledged to do."

The central government owes the Fund over \$300 million in unpaid employer contributions.

## Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Nov. 30, 1999

### Bill limits activities on Managaha Island

A legislative proposal designating Managaha island and its surrounding waters as a conservation area will limit the use of the popular tourist destination from such activities as fishing and motorized boating in a bid to safeguard the historical and cultural significance of the area and its resources. The legislation sponsored by Rep. Heinz S. Hofschneider will carry fines of up to \$10,000 and imprisonment of not more than one year for violations of the proposed law which came after months of environmental assessment of the island. Under House Bill 11-500, Managaha and its waters will become a marine conservation area governed by strict management programs to be implemented by the Department of Lands and Natural Resources and its various divisions.

### Continental drops NMI from Web-based campaign

Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio yesterday expressed his disappointment again after learning that Continental Airlines has excluded the Northern Marianas from its Web-based promotional campaign of Western Pacific island destinations. "It's very unfair and I'm very disappointed if that is the case and I hope that they would review their website and include also the CNMI unless they just don't want to continue providing service to the CNMI," he told reporters when sought for his comment. The statement came just weeks after he protested the carrier's exclusion of the island from its campaign that appeared in the quarterly issue of the OnePass Update newsletter for its OnePass customers.

Nov. 30, 2000

### Scholarship Office seeks solution to collection woes

The CNMI Scholarship Office is seeking government assistance to establish within the agency an organized collection system that would recover an estimated \$2 million worth of approved student loans dating back to school years 1995 through 1998. Administrator Hilaria K. Santos disclosed that in the years the student loan program was made available to CNMI students, not a single cent has been collected so far. As hard as it is to locate students with pending financial liabilities to the Scholarship Office, Ms. Santos cited it is equally a challenge to initiate collection efforts due to absence of additional staff that would focus on the task.

### Senate urged action on toxic bill

Proponent of a measure allowing island residents to sue for damages stemming from exposure to toxic chemicals prodded the Senate yesterday to pass the legislation to hasten plans by Tanapag residents to bring the PCB problem to court. Rep. Dino M. Jones, chair of the House Natural Resources Committee and main sponsor of HB 12-293 or the "Toxic Substances Exposure Compensation Act," met with Senate Floor Leader Pete P. Reyes to appeal for immediate action from the upper house. The measure, which was cleared by the House of Representatives the other day, is likely to be put to a vote in the next Senate session, he said.

Nov. 30, 2001

### Variety faces \$3M libel suit

Stating that citizens should not tolerate malicious reporting and that he feels a duty "to protect his company's name, employees' morale and other stakeholder confidence in the company," Tan Holdings president Willie Tan yesterday filed a \$3 million lawsuit against the *Marianas Variety* for publishing false and defamatory statements about him. The suit was filed in the CNMI Superior Court against Younis Art Studio, Inc., publisher of the *Marianas Variety*, for statements published about the businessman in October 2001. Tan's complaint originates from statements made by a Saipan legislator, which were published prior to the recent gubernatorial election and repeated in several news stories. They were also published in the *Variety* in a series of paid political advertisements.

### OPA takes hands off in Marpi bidding

The Public Auditor's Office has denied the appeal made by the Division of Procurement & Supply for the OPA to take over the decision-making process in the Marpi Solid Waste Facility project, saying it is not within the purview of the OPA to do so. In a decision released Wednesday, Public Auditor Michael S. Sablan said the OPA has the limited responsibility of determining whether a solicitation or proposed award violates the law or regulation or not. "OPA's role under the CNMI Procurement Regulations is to adjudicate procurement appeals and render decisions. OPA's function is, therefore, limited to weighing the issues raised in the appeal and determining its merits," said Sablan.



## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



### INVITATION FOR BID CUC-IFB-11-006

#### SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF POLE MOUNTED TRANSFORMERS

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Supply and Delivery of Pole Mounted Transformers for the CUC Power Division in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The bid package may be picked-up at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

**One (1) original and Six (6) copies** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-11-006, Supply & Delivery of Pole Mounted Transformers", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **December 3, 2010 at 10:00 AM (CHST)** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury. A Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC. All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid or supply under the contract.

The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for goods. Bid award will be given to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder whose bid is responsive to all specification and requirements concerning delivery time, payment terms, warranty and duration of warranty.

Bidders will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 PM (CHST) local time on **November 26, 2010** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - [msablan@cucgov.net](mailto:msablan@cucgov.net) with a copy to Mr. John Onedera, Power Division Engineer- [johno@cucgov.net](mailto:johno@cucgov.net) and Ms. Janina Mika Muna, Admin. Support Assistant, Procurement & Supply - [mika\\_muna@cucgov.net](mailto:mika_muna@cucgov.net).

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

**ABE U. MALAE**  
 Executive Director



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FRIDAY DEC. 3<sup>RD</sup> ★ SATURDAY DEC. 4<sup>TH</sup>**

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| ✓ <b>Gold Rings</b> ..... up to \$500         | ✓ <b>Gold School Rings</b> ..... up to \$500    | ✓ <b>Gold Watches</b> ..... up to \$1,750        | ✓ <b>Gold Cuff Links</b> ..... up to \$300      |
| ✓ <b>Gold Watch Cases</b> ..... up to \$750   | ✓ <b>Gold Chains</b> ..... up to \$1,000        | ✓ <b>Gold Nugget Rings</b> ..... up to \$800     | ✓ <b>Gold Broken Rings</b> ..... up to \$500    |
| ✓ <b>Gold Watch Bands</b> ..... up to \$1,000 | ✓ <b>Gold Earrings</b> ..... up to \$200        | ✓ <b>Gold Pocket Watches</b> ..... up to \$750   | ✓ <b>Gold Brooches</b> ..... up to \$1,000      |
| ✓ <b>Gold Wedding Bands</b> ..... up to \$350 | ✓ <b>Dental Gold</b> ..... up to \$900          | ✓ <b>Gold Link Bracelets</b> ..... up to \$2,500 | ✓ <b>Gold Coins</b> ..... up to \$15,000        |
| ✓ <b>Gold Bangles</b> ..... up to \$850       | ✓ <b>Gold Scrap</b> ..... up to \$1,250         | ✓ <b>Gold Broken Chains</b> ..... up to \$1,000  | ✓ <b>Gold Bars</b> ..... up to \$15,000         |
| ✓ <b>Gold Pendants</b> ..... up to \$300      | ✓ <b>Gold Nugget Bracelets</b> .. up to \$2,500 |  |   |

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<b>\$2.50 U.S. Gold</b> .....	<b>\$125 to \$5,500</b>
<b>\$3.00 U.S. Gold</b> .....	<b>\$250 to \$5,750</b>
<b>\$5.00 U.S. Gold</b> .....	<b>\$250 to \$7,500</b>
<b>\$10.00 U.S. Gold</b> .....	<b>\$500 to \$11,500</b>
<b>\$20.00 U.S. Gold</b> .....	<b>\$1,000 to \$15,000</b>

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<b>50C Silver</b> (1964 & earlier).....	<b>\$4 up to \$2,000</b>
<b>25C Silver</b> (1964 & earlier).....	<b>\$2 up to \$750</b>
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# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

## Saipan Tribune

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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

### EDITORIAL

## Scared smokeless

(c) 2010, Los Angeles Times

It's easy to guess what would happen if a pharmaceutical company asked the Food and Drug Administration to approve a new product with the following characteristics: no proven health benefits. Major known side effects: greatly increased risk of emphysema, heart attacks, stroke and cancer, including lung, cervical, mouth, stomach and bladder. The product also lowers bone density in older women and causes higher rates of serious health problems among newborns. It significantly harms the health even of those who merely spend time near the drug while it's in use. And it's addictive.

If cigarettes were a new invention, they'd never pass muster with even the most lax of regulatory agencies. Unhappily for our collective health, not only does tobacco's legacy date back thousands of years, but it is inextricably tied to the birth of the United States. None other than John Rolfe, best known as Pocahontas' husband, is credited with the first commercial cultivation of tobacco in Jamestown, in 1612.

Four hundred years later, we've learned a thing or two about tobacco, especially in its inhaled form. Now we wrestle with how to act on that information. Cigarettes are a terrible health scourge, but this is also a country that respects the right of adults, in most cases, to ruin their own health as long as they are not endangering others. So driving drunk is forbidden, as is smoking in many indoor public spaces, but cigarettes themselves remain legal.

Yet as a society, we don't want to sit idly by and watch tobacco take its toll. So we tried public service messages to counter the lure of cigarette advertising. Then we banned TV commercials and placed small warnings from the surgeon general on cigarette packs. We raised excise taxes and restricted the settings where smoking is legal.

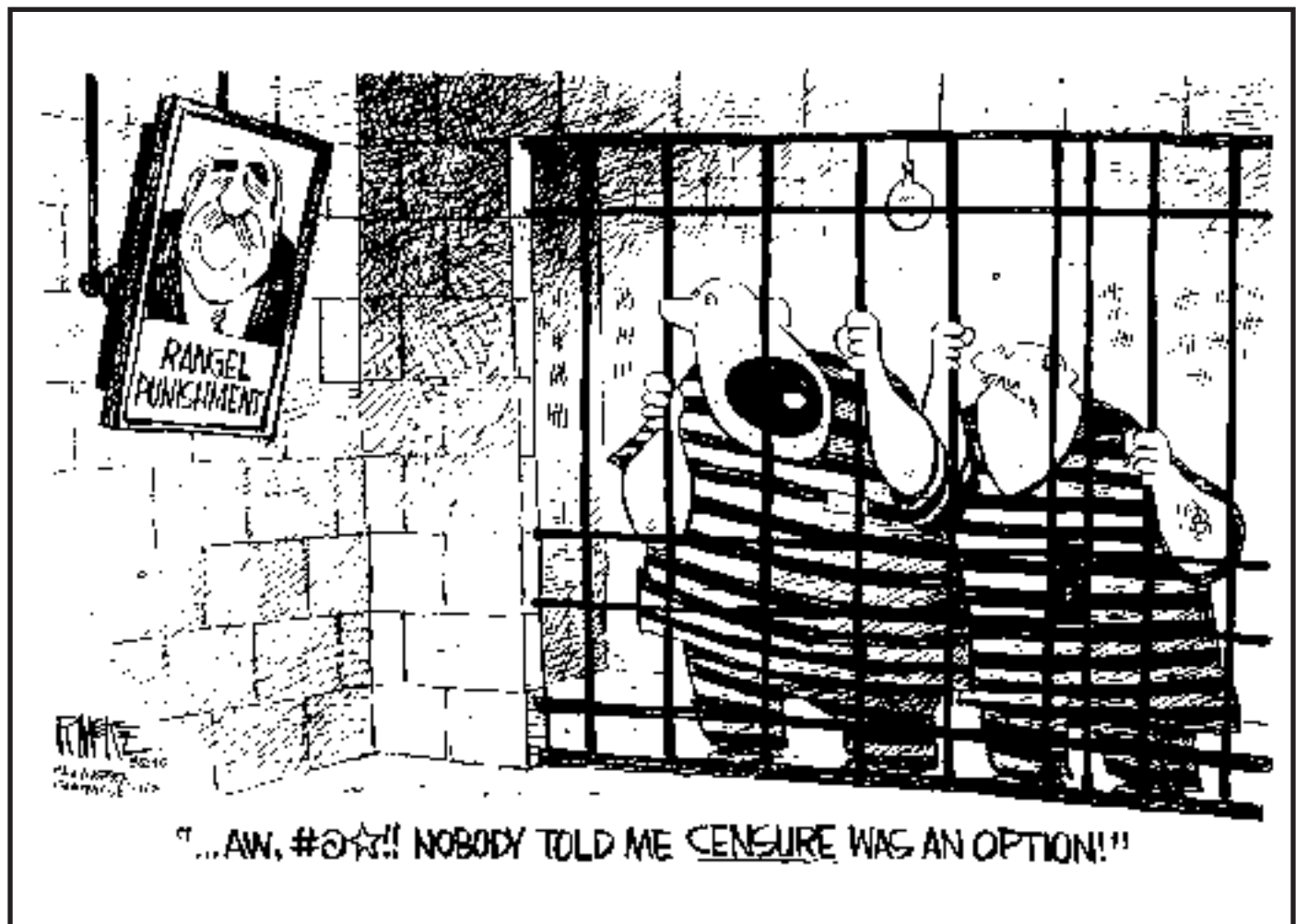
It worked. Smoking rates are half what they were 40 years ago, with only one in five Americans lighting up. (In California, which has led the nation in anti-smoking laws and public service messages, the rate is lower than 13 percent.)

For the last six years, though, progress against cigarettes has stalled, which led to congressional action last year in the form of a law empowering the FDA to regulate tobacco and requiring large, visually arresting anti-smoking warnings on every cigarette pack. The recently unveiled images, which will cover half of the front and back of each pack, show tar-blackened lungs and toe-tagged corpses, along with many tamer pictures. The depictions must also be shown in cigarette advertisements, and must take up a fifth of the ad's space.

In the past decade, 38 countries started requiring cigarette packs to carry images designed to discourage the habit. Early research offers encouraging signs that they work, and do so without requiring a major investment of taxpayer money. Short of banning cigarettes altogether, it will take this sort of bold action to prod the nation into further reducing tobacco use. If anything, the FDA's new warning labels err on the side of being too tepid.

We don't say that lightly. The images will in effect force tobacco companies to advertise against themselves on the packages of their own products. The possible analogies are endless: Should wineries be required to include color photos of cirrhotic livers on their labels, or should KFC buckets of chicken have to feature a cross-section of the fat deposits on an obese individual? Concerns about a slippery slope are valid—it would be distasteful and ultimately unhelpful to litter the landscape with

See SCARED on Next Page



## The United States and China on Korea

Or, should that be China and the United States? America's penchant for being No. 1 has spilled over the side of its misplaced pride. A news commentator observed that in a recent visit to Beijing, U.S. suggestions of what China might do, particularly at the G20 Summit where Mr. Obama allegedly hoped that Mr. Hu would unilaterally announce a less regulated Chinese currency in the global market, he felt the subtle Chinese message was: We are the masters now! The emergence of the primacy of China's economic strength, it looks like, has put America on the defensive. Not that China has ever been submissive, or has ascended to Olympian heights of arrogance. It calls itself "the Middle Kingdom," for heaven's sake. Its preoccupation is balance, not dominance; harmony, not conflict. On the other hand, the mighty US is a very jealous god.

There are two areas where China and the United States are on either side of the table these days. The image of the table itself is a bone of contention. In the Vietnam peace talks, the U.S. wanted a rectangular table where the sides are clearly delineated, as it has been in the P'anmunjom table separating the Koreans, while China wanted a roundtable. China prevailed. The areas are the Korean Peninsula and UN Conference on Climate Warming in Cancun. We deal with Korea in this reflection, climate warming tomorrow.

First, the Koreans. We were by the Amur River frolicking with the Russian bears this week when an artillery exchange occurred in Yeonpyeong-do (*do* means "island" in *Hangeul*). A concerned friend immediately sent an email for us to leave the area. Though covered by China's CCTV, the incident has not generated the same frenzy in print and broadcast media as it had in the United States.

The picture from this end. The Republic of Korea (South Korea-ROK) announces military exercises with U.S. forces for late November, protested by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea-DPRK). ROK on Yeonpyeong-do proceed with artillery preparation. DPRK alleges that ROK boomed first, though not directed at NK (not denied by SK), which triggered an hourlong exchange of artillery, resulting in the death of two marines and two civilians in the SK side.

Yeonpyeong-do is a disputed island less than 10 miles from the North and about 100 miles away from the South, an anomaly from the border delineation of the 1953 Armistice. This is like Quemoy in the Taiwan Straits, within cock's crow hearing in Fujian but a radio call to Taipei, but nevertheless fortified by Taiwan with the support of the U.S. Seventh Fleet and featured in the onset of the Taiwan Strait wars. (Curious readers may Google any of these islands: Tungyin, Liang, Peikant'and, Matsu, Paich'uan, Wuch'iu Hsu, Quemoy, or the Taiwan Straits war.)

In Yeonpyeong-do, however, the artillery installations are in the middle of the population (a defensive posture practiced by Ripon in WWII) and so, the DPRK apologized for the civilian casualty. We do not intend to justify the DPRK's action, but compared to the relentless but disproportionate demonizing of its existence, especially

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section.



since the ROK is still under U.S. military command, one might be forgiven a little attempt at enlightenment.

Sen. John McCain of AZ, the admiral's son and former combat pilot, prominent tenant of the Hanoi Hilton, and high profile Republican member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, advocates a regime change in the DPRK. Dusting off CIA plan B!

China calls for an emergency six-nation roundtable early December and urges military restraints. *Hanggul Saram* (South Korea populace) is divided between those who clamor for revenge and the strengthening of U.S. presence in the peninsula, and those who think it is time to rethink dependence on the U.S. military, in the peninsula and the Far East, that "60 years is long enough." The popular sentiment is on the latter's side, but the health of the Korean won is tied to the former and the military-related industries. The avenging anger and hate-filled midterm U.S. electors seem to favor the latter as well.

The Pentagon unsurprisingly sends the Nimitz nuclear carrier Japan-based *George Washington* to the exercises, a move that is characterized as sending the peninsula into a "brink of war" status. An irritating flea is biting and we send an elephant to swat it out of existence? Friends say that the stars-and-stripes attired bully has always been trigger-happy with a *High Noon* attitude and an ever-ready six-shooter (one might guess I went to school in Texas) on the loose. Are we posturing for military conflict v. China/DPRK?

Macroeconomic charts show that the steady business cycle of the U.S. economy was interrupted by the Great Depression with the failure of the banks and the loss of confidence in the financial system. Two policies were put in place: FDR's stimulating New Deal and the entry into WWII, which invigorated the U.S. economy into global prominence. War is not inimical to the interest of the State, at least, not to the Marianas.

We outspend the combined next 15 countries on defense expenditure, and the U.S. discretionary budget is overwhelmingly allocated on defense, with a war on terrorism rationale to make it palatable. The insecurity of the heretofore richest and smartest nation seems boundless, ridiculously so when designing a system that peeks on what Sen. Pete Reyes looks like under his civies! *Oy vey Maria!* Or, as they say locally here, *Ayyah!*

We opt for the roundtable. And stay out of my undies, please. Peace.



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# Afghanistan no longer for the birds

By **SADIQ BEHNAM**  
THE INSTITUTE FOR WAR&PEACE REPORTING

HERAT, Afghanistan—Rahimullah stood in his field, killing field mice one by one as they were driven from their holes by a rush of irrigation water. But the 55-year-old farmer understands that he’s fighting a losing battle against the scrambling rodents. And he knows that he stands even less of a chance of successfully combating the swarm of locusts that are destroying his crops.

He’s tried using chemical sprays and insecticides, but to little effect. What’s he’s lacking are the various species of birds that have long been the Afghan farmers’ natural ally in the battle to protect his crop.

Birds are disappearing from Afghanistan, either killed by

hunters or caught by trappers who then sell them to the burgeoning international market.

Agriculture officials in Herat province confirm that hunting and smuggling have decimated the bird population in the province, allowing pests like mice and locust to run wild.

There are no accurate statistics on wildlife numbers in Herat province. But officials say that a dozen bird species are in danger. Hunting bans are virtually impossible to enforce. Meanwhile, the booming business in exporting birds ranging from hawks and eagles to mynas has had a devastating impact on their populations.

Abdul Qayum Khan, head of the environmental protection agency, said many people around Herat city make their living gathering myna chicks from nests and selling them overseas.

“The birds are smuggled to Iran in large numbers, so that they now occur very rarely, not only in Herat but in the west (of Afghani-

stan) generally,” he said.

Mir Ahmad, 26, from the village of Nawin, acknowledges there is good money to be made in the bird trade. He said he pays villagers 50 cents for each myna they’ve captured. He then turns around and sells the same bird in Herat for more than \$5. Traders who transport the birds into Iran say each bird can fetch between \$30 and \$40 there.

In addition to being popular pets because of their parrot-like ability to mimic the human voice, the birds are also extremely efficient at clearing farmlands of pests, such as field mice.

Environmental official Abdul Qayum Khan said Afghanistan’s frontier police were not doing enough to curb smuggling. “Whenever we identify someone as a bird smuggler, the police argue that they can’t arrest someone just for catching a few birds. This has become the biggest problem facing the environmental protection agency,” he said.

Aminullah Azad, deputy chief of the frontier police in the area, confirmed that bird-smuggling was not one of his department’s priorities. In fact, he insisted that no one had ordered him to halt those taking birds out of the country.

He said his officers were not treating bird exports as smuggling and were not focusing on the issue because they had received no instructions to do so. “When such an order is issued to us, we will stop any kind of bird from being taken out of the country,” he added.

Ghulam Sakhi, 50, a farmer in Herat’s Anjil district, said he misses the mynas.

Villagers used to welcome the flocks of birds in the knowledge that they would defend the surrounding farmland from insects. Just 10 years ago, he said, “tens of thousands of mynas would gather in the trees in our village and make a racket every night. But in recent years there’s been no sign of them.”

*Sadiq Behnam is a reporter in Afghanistan who writes for The Institute for War & Peace Reporting, a nonprofit organization that trains journalists in areas of conflict.*

## Letters to the Editor

## CNMI’s friend in DC?

With news of Saipan’s favorite Washington insider found guilty in federal court last week, and hopefully going to prison where he belongs, along with Mr. Abramoff, his partner in crime who’s also a Washington white-collar criminal, I hope the CNMI can look at itself hard and see what the problem is with your local society and ethics. And why the island is in such a mess, and highly unlikely to ever pull itself up and survive.

Tom Delay was a proven crook, and his days golfing on Saipan on his paid junkets and payoffs by locals should have also been brought to the attention of the media during this trial. The long list of unethical dealings by this “friend of the CNMI in Washington”

includes corruption with Abramoff and inside bribes for holding off immigration reform in the CNMI. Shame on the CNMI for courting this crook.

The problems you have now with the CNMI economy are largely endemic to a mindset and value system your leadership has in their DNA. You reap what you sow. As my mother always told me in school, “People will always judge you by the friends you keep.”

**Chris West**  
*Santa Monica, Calif.*

## Where’s my rebate check?

The outlook wasn’t brilliant for the CNMI that day. The governor wanted austerity, but the island had bills to pay. Then PSS said, “You can’t touch us.” Other agencies said the same. Then the governor sent out tax payments, with 9,000 recipients who remained. Those 9,000 recipients were in a heap of financial despair. Forty million dollars the governor had locked up in the treasury chest.

Now I promised my daughter for her birthday a nice pink cake and a new bicycle. Her birthday came and went, my promises went broken as no checks were sent. Spring turned to summer and summer to fall. When school started in September she only asked for a book bag. “When the check gets here, I’ll buy you all I can,” I promised her. I told her that and she grinned.

Some 9,000 people were also promised by the governor in July that he wouldn’t hold up these tax returns. And in his reply I trusted. I told my daughter what he promised and she would indeed get her prize. My daughter patiently waited for the bag I promised. After all, the governor did say he would send out the refunds. He would not hold them up and everyone should get one. Hearing that, my daughter ran to the mailbox everyday with glee, only to see the mailbox and return home empty. Sadly, school started and my daughter had to carry a paper bag containing her school supplies. Her friends laughed at her for not having new clothes. I would have bought them for her, if I had my refund check.

Halloween was coming and all the kids were thrilled. They

could wear funny costumes and cause such a fright. “I know the check will be here,” she told me so happily. “Then you can take me to JJJ to buy a costume for me.” The daily walks to the post office we made each day. With each passing day, none of the 9,000 people were paid. So for Halloween, I’m sad to say, she stayed home, without a costume, and cried as she played.

With the thought of Thanksgiving only a week away, she asked me, “Are we going to have turkey this year if the governor pays?” “No, my dear,” I had to tell her with such sadness. “This year we will have Spam and have to enjoy it.” “No!” yelled my daughter in ever increasing disgust. “What did I do that the governor would lie to us? He ruined my birthday, back to school, Halloween and Thanksgiving stuff. Why doesn’t he just send out the checks and help out all of us?”

The smile is gone from Alexis’ lips, her teeth are clenched in hate. Thanksgiving Day came and went with still no checks. In four more weeks, it will be Christmas Day. I can’t break one more promise to Alexis. I need my money today. I think I may have to tell her the truth before it all comes out. There will be no joy in the CNMI this Christmas, as the governor will refuse to send the tax return checks out.

**Keith Brooks**  
*Dandan, Saipan*

## How do you spell relief?

I, along with many others I’m sure, was greatly relieved to read Friday that the Rota Municipal Council has confirmed the appointment of a new casino commissioner. We can only imagine how much this means to the people of Rota, who, I imagine, were holding their collective breath, until this appointment was confirmed. Congratulations Rota! You have hit the jackpot! We can all now rest assured that the once faltering casino is fast-tracked for success. Way to go Rota!

Meanwhile, the mayor of Tinian has vowed to appoint another gaming commissioner so that commission will finally have a quorum. This is indeed great news for the people of Tinian and no doubt for the Tinian Dynasty, which can look forward to the bold leadership of the full commission as well as increased revenue. To be sure there are some minor financial problems on Tinian (some fuss recently about doctors and blood tests, for example) but these will soon be things of the past as the full commission now has the reins.

Along with everyone else, I was also relieved to read that Gov. Fitial “is closely monitoring” the ruckus in Korea, hav-

ing, according to his PIO, “received intel from Washington, D.C. that the ongoing situation poses no immediate threat to the Marianas.” While the local government is “keeping a close eye on developments in the region” this is no time to speculate, according to Angel Demapan, PIO: “It would be premature to speculate that the conflict in the Korean peninsula would serve as basis to escalate the impending military buildup in the Marianas.” Well, I beg to differ. I think this an opportune moment to speculate (what does no immediate threat really mean?) especially about the possibility of the *George Washington*, the ship, of course, stopping by on the way back home. That would be an MB-U (military buildup), according to my intel, of about 7,000 sailors and Marines, all flush with cash, all throbbing for slot machines, poker tables, bar girls and romance. Boy, if that were to happen, wouldn’t we have egg on our faces for killing the pot bill?

**William R. Barrineau**  
*Puerto Rico, Saipan*

## SCARED

From Page 10

repulsive pictorial warnings—but those concerns shouldn’t stop the FDA from taking this potentially life-saving course of action.

That’s because when it comes to health-destroying products, cigarettes are in a class of their own. They have no real benefits and are addictive as well. Though many people might treat themselves to an occasional plate of fries or a bottle of beer, rare is the person who enjoys a cigarette every couple of weeks. Many smokers were lured into addiction by an industry that purposely withheld information about its product’s horrific effects on health. Smoking remains the No. 1 cause of preventable death in the United States.

In 2001, Canada became the first country to adopt the big, colorful, graphic warnings. Smoking rates among Canadian youth ages 15 to 19 have dropped from 26 percent to 15 percent. Adult rates dropped less dramatically. But it’s impossible to know how much of the reduction was prompted by the warning labels, because several other anti-smoking initiatives started in the country around the same time.

Still, the results from surveys in 15 countries offer persuasive evidence of the labels’ effectiveness. Smokers noticed and remembered the images better than text warnings and said the new labels had given them important health information. Teenagers were more likely to say the graphic warnings had discouraged them from smoking altogether, and adults were more likely to have at least tried to quit or to have refrained from taking the next cigarette they had planned on smoking.

As helpful as it is to adopt more prominent warnings, equally important is making sure they have the maximum impact. The FDA is considering 36 possible images, and will narrow those to nine. But David Hammond, an assistant professor at the University of Waterloo in Canada and one of the leading researchers on the topic, says many of the images are too tame to grab consumer attention. One of the most effective Canadian images shows a grinning, cancer-riddled mouth; opening the package also opens the mouth, the teeth parting to reveal the neatly packaged cigarettes. There’s a less repulsive version of the cancerous mouth among the FDA’s contenders, along with one of a smoker exhaling through a hole in his throat. But many of the FDA’s images are more symbolic than graphic; it should use the most dramatic ones.






Research shows that the warning labels work better when they’re coupled with an increase in smoking-cessation programs, and when they include a phone number or website where smokers can get quick information on how to quit. The change in cigarette labeling is welcome, but the FDA could do more. If the idea is to startle people into quitting, this is no time for timidity.



Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

### Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲87 ▼79
Palau	Showers	▲88 ▼78
Yap	Showers	▲89 ▼77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲83 ▼78
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲86 ▼74
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲88 ▼76
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲85 ▼76

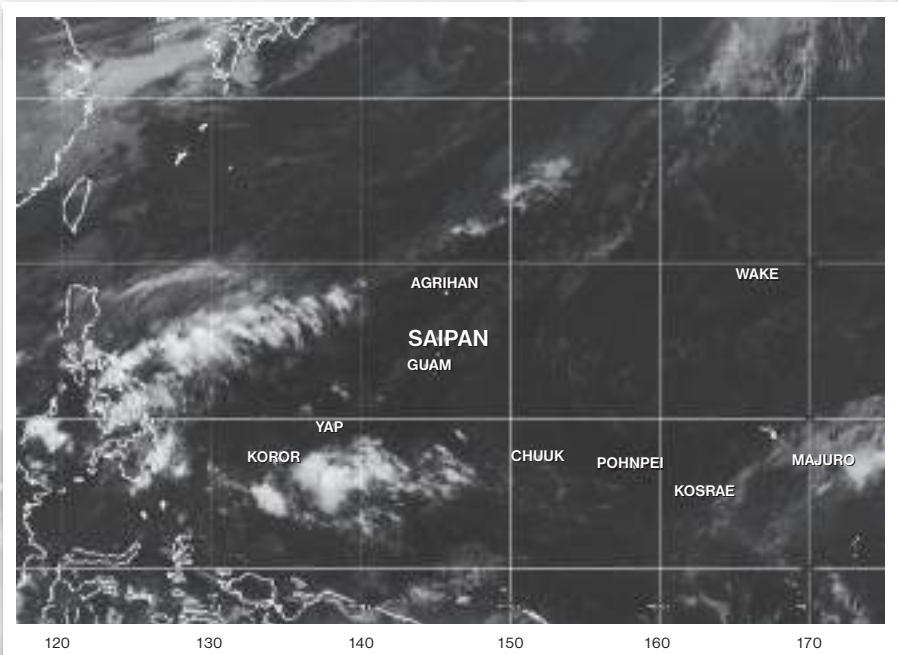
### Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲70 ▼59
Beijing	Sunny	▲52 ▼28
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲79 ▼57
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲82 ▼72
London	Snow	▲35 ▼31
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲66 ▼46
Manila	Thundershowers	▲89 ▼76
Melbourne	Showers	▲70 ▼57
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲83 ▼70
New York	Showers	▲59 ▼54
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲63 ▼50
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲34 ▼24
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲64 ▼50
Rome	Rain	▲62 ▼49
Salem	Rain	▲47 ▼43
San Francisco	Mostly Cloudy	▲60 ▼48
Seoul	Sunny	▲53 ▼34
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲61 ▼48
Washington, DC	Showers	▲63 ▼53

### Tides

Saipan Harbor				
1:49 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.4 Feet	
8:06 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.4 Feet	
2:50 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet	
9:45 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.5 Feet	

### Yesterday's Satellite Image



### PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2010

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A shear line extends southwestward from 25N151E to beyond 130E at 16N. Scattered showers are found west of the Marianas within 100 miles of a line from 16N130E to 25N147E. A trough west of 130E and a trade-wind disturbance south of Yap are producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms between 3N and 8N west of 142E. This area includes Palau. A trough between Pohnpei and Kosrae extends northward from 1N159E to 2N161E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found in an area bounded by a line from 9N161E to 3N157E to 3N165E to 8N167E back to 9N161E.

### Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:26 AM	5:45 PM
Wednesday	6:27 AM	5:45 PM
Thursday	6:27 AM	5:45 PM
Friday	6:28 AM	5:45 PM
Saturday	6:29 AM	5:45 PM

### Moonrise/Moonset

Today	12:49 AM	1:10 PM
Wednesday	1:45 AM	1:53 PM
Thursday	2:43 AM	2:39 PM
Friday	3:42 AM	3:27 PM
Saturday	4:42 AM	4:19 PM

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  - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
  - BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
  - SAMU'T SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
  - TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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  - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
  - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
  - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
  - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

- For announcements:**
  - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 17, 2010

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM				GUAM-SAIPAN			
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily	C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6	C09596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C09596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09605	6:20pm	7:10pm	Daily	C09604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily	C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:10am	8:45am	Daily	DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL285	6:40am	9:15am	Daily	DL286	3:50pm	8:25pm	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily	DL288	8:00pm	12:30am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5	OZ607	9:10pm	2:20am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ604	2:10am	6:00am	1	OZ605	9:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ604	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ603	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ606	3:20pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7	OZ603	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6	FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ604/701	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ704/605	12:10am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ604/701	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN				via ICN
C09317/891	2:45am	9:45am	3, 6 via GUM	DL172/286	7:55am	8:25pm	Daily via NRT
DL285/173	6:40am	10:15pm	Daily via NRT	C0890/9606	10:55am	8:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
C09313/933	7:55am	9:40pm	6 via GUM	OZ702/603	1:10pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
C09313/893	7:55am	11:00pm	3 via GUM+Palau	OZ702/603	1:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C09603/933	3:05pm	9:40pm	1, 2, 4, 7 via GUM	C0892/9596	10:25pm	7:25am+1	3 via GUM+Palau
C09603/893	3:05pm	11:00pm	5 via GUM+Palau	C0892/9596	10:25pm	7:50am+1	5 via GUM+Palau
C09605/933	6:20pm	9:40pm	1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	PR110/C0596	10:00pm	7:25am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ606/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 ICN	C0934/9596	11:10pm	7:25am+1	3 via GUM
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	C0934/9596	11:10pm	7:50am+1	1, 2, 5, 7 via GUM
				C0934/9596	11:59pm	7:25am+1	6 via GUM
				C0934/9596	11:59pm	7:50am+1	4 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG				HONG KONG-SAIPAN			
OZ604/721	2:10am	12:00am	1 via ICN	OZ724/605	12:30am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ604/721	2:40am	12:00am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN				via ICN
C09603/909	3:05pm	10:25pm	1, 5 via GUM	OZ722/603	1:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ606/723	3:20pm	10:35pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/603	1:30pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
				C0910/9596	11:15pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana  
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
FRE 300	17:50	18:20	Daily				
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
				FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



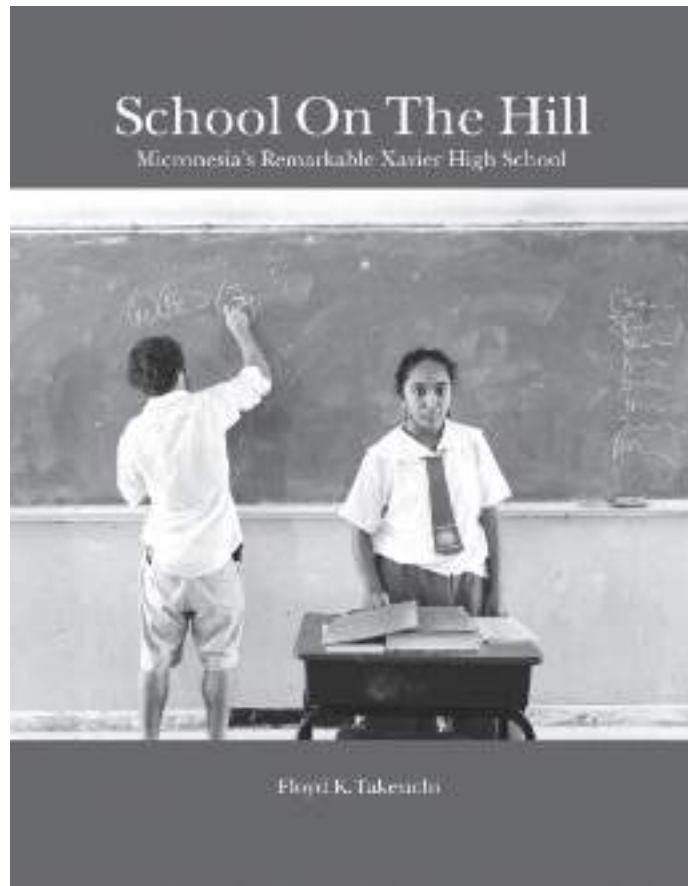
## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

- Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
  - \*11 on any PTI cellular phone
  - Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)



## 'SCHOOL ON THE HILL'

# New book focuses on a Micronesia success story



Xavier High School, located on a scenic hill in the Federated States of Micronesia, has been educating Pacific Island leaders for nearly 60 years. Now for the first time there is a book that examines the Jesuit college preparatory boarding school and why it has been a continuing education and leadership success story.

*School On The Hill – Micronesia's Remarkable Xavier High School* by Floyd K. Takeuchi is now for sale at on-line bookstore Lulu.com. It is published by 2LDK Media.

Takeuchi spent a month living on the Xavier campus in Chuuk, FSM photographing and doing research for the 180-page book. The result is an in-depth look at the unique school. The book has 159 photographs and eight essays about Xavier and its 175 students, who come from the FSM, Palau, Marshall Islands, Guam, and the Philippines.

"Before I spent time at Xavier, I knew it was successful, but



Students relax in the study hall after a campus-wide cleanup project.

FLOYD K. TAKEUCHI

I didn't know how the Jesuits were able to train such outstanding leaders. The book shares the 'secrets' of Xavier: high expectations; discipline; rigorous academics; and, a faith-based community that emphasizes respect," says Takeuchi.

"Xavier's story is an important one, particularly in the Western Pacific," adds Takeuchi. "It is a model for success,

despite having few resources, at a time when there are so few examples of educational excellence in the region."

Xavierites include the current president of the FSM, a former FSM president, two former Palau presidents, diplomats, senators, lawyers and senior community leaders. The co-ed school, which has grades 9-12, typically attracts nearly

1,000 applicants for 50 spots in a freshman class.

Takeuchi is a journalist who has covered Pacific Island issues, particularly in the Micronesian region, for more than 33 years. Takeuchi was born and raised in the Marshall Islands. He is the co-author of *Majuro—Essays from an Atoll*, which is sold exclusively on Amazon.com. (PR)

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Cancer survivor support meeting today

All cancer survivors are invited to the next survivor support meeting today, Nov. 30, 2010, at the Hyatt Chamolinian Room starting at 5:30pm.

This month's survivor support meeting will feature Part II of a mini-workshop on "The Joy of Seeing, Taking, and Sharing Photographs," by professional photographer Bryan Jones. It will include a presentation of photographs submitted by survivors. The presentation will be followed by a survivors-only discussion. In addition, the Department of Public Health will be offering free flu shots for all interested participants.

For more information, or to RSVP, contact the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or cca@ccamarianas.org or call the DPH Comprehensive Cancer Control Program at 236-8728. (CCA)

### Trivia Tuesday at Wild Bill's today

Don't miss Trivia Tuesday night at Wild Bill's Bar & Grill today, Nov. 30, from 7:30pm to 9:30pm! The Commonwealth Cancer Association will be selling raffle tickets for \$1 apiece, and raffling off terrific prizes including gift certificates, yoga mats, umbrellas, and first aid kits, and more. All raffle proceeds will benefit the association.

Admission to Trivia Tuesdays is free, and there will be food and drink specials for all to enjoy. For information about Trivia Tuesdays, call Quizmaster Daniel Stafford at

483-8979 or email danielstafford10@gmail.com. For information about the Commonwealth Cancer Association, call 682-0050 or email cca@ccamarianas.org. (PR)

### Chamber meeting tomorrow

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce's next general membership meeting will be held tomorrow, Dec. 1, at Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Ballroom. Guest speaker at the meeting will be Capt. Herman Awai, Commodore of COMPSRON 3, which are the preposition ships that you see off our western shore every day. These ships contribute to the economy both directly and indirectly and are an important part of the community. Commodore Awai will talk about Maritime Preposition Ships Squadron 3 capabilities, mission and community relations.

Registration and lunch will begin at 11:30am, and the meeting will begin at noon. The meeting is \$15 for members, \$20 for guests of members, and \$25 for general public. (SCC)

### Quiz Night 2010 on Friday

The Autism Society of the CNMI will be hosting the "Quiz Night 2010" on Friday, Dec. 3, 2010, to raise awareness of autism and raise funds for the Society.

Quiz Night is a fundraising event where teams of 7 (5 people and 2 substitutes) compete in a fun trivia-based game. If you don't have a team, we will be able to assemble a team for

you at the event.

The event will take place at the Saipan World Resort, from 6pm to 10pm. It will cost \$100 per team of 5 (with 2 alternates) or \$15 per person. Buffet is included!

To purchase a ticket, donate or sponsor, contact any of the following:

- ASCNMI - 235-7273 or as\_cnmi@yahoo.com
- Barbara Merfalen - 989-2627
- Larrisa Larson - 287-4899
- Tom Thornburgh - 287-9205
- Jan Reyes - 287-8350

### PAWS seeks new members, donations

For our island's animals, your membership/donation to PAWS makes the difference between neglect and nurturing, hurting and health, loneliness and a loving home. We appreciate your generosity and commitment to animals. Please join us in this effort by renewing your membership today.

Here's how you can make a donation:

Download our fill-able membership form from our website: <http://paws-saipan.org/pawsmbrapp2010.pdf> and mail your donation to: PAWS, P.O. Box 5330, Saipan, MP 96950 or drop it off at Paradise Island Animal Hospital. (PR)

### Educational assistance program deadlines for Winter/Spring 2010

Application deadline for new or returning applicants: Dec. 15, 2010 (For those who submitted an application for fall term 2010, they do not have to reapply for Winter/Spring term)

Deadline for supporting documents: Feb. 28, 2011

For more information call 664-4750/52 or visit [www.cnmi-scholarship.com](http://www.cnmi-scholarship.com). (PR)

### SHRM presents 'The CNMI Prevailing Wage System'

The Society for Human Resource Management CNMI Chapter will be hosting a special

half-day membership meeting on "The CNMI Prevailing Wage System" this Thursday, Dec. 2, 2010. The speakers will be William Rabung of the U. S. Department of Labor's Employment Training Administration (Washington D.C.) via live video teleconference, and Gary Hiles of the Guam Department of Labor.

The lunch meeting will be held at Northern Marianas Col-

lege in room D-1 (across the NMC Bookstore) on Thursday, Dec. 2, 2010, from 8:30am – 11:30am. The seminar includes breakfast and refreshments and the cost is \$20 for SHRM members and \$30 for non-members. Seats are limited, so reserve your seat by contacting Polly DLG Masga at 237-5122 or e-mail her at pollydlg@gmail.com. (PR)



### EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Security officer Riazul Islam, center, is G4S Security Services (CNMI) Inc.'s employee of the month for October 2010. Islam is assigned to the Duty Free Shop Saipan. He is shown here after being presented with his certificate of appreciation by G4S CNMI branch manager Moises K. Pangelinan and supervisor Danilo S. Lapeceros.

G4S

### BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

To a wonderful husband, happy birthday Nixon Smith! All my love on your birthday! To a wonderful husband and father. I knew we'd be together, when you swept me off my feet, but since you've been my husband and our children's father, you have made our life complete. Your love has opened up a world, of happiness to us, and by your side or in your arms, is where we're proud to be. This comes with true emotion, on your extra special day, To tell you that we love you more, than any words could say." Greetings come from your wife and kids.





# Business

## New jetbridge boarding adapter for Cape Air flights to Guam

**GUAM**—On Nov. 15, 2010, Continental Airlines completed installation and operation of a new jetbridge boarding adapter for the ATR aircraft of Cape Air flights at Gate 4 at the A.B. Won



AP

In this Nov. 26, 2010 photo, Octavia Williams arranges merchandise at the Castro Goodwill in San Francisco.

## Goodwill thrives at San Francisco thrift store

**SAN FRANCISCO** (AP)—Before Goodwill Industries opened its newest retail outlet here, no one would have argued that San Francisco had a shortage of thrift stores for its avid recyclers and trendy hipsters. What the city did lack was enough jobs for its transgender population, a group with an unemployment rate thought to be twice the California average.

So when a prime piece of commercial real estate languished vacant in the predominantly gay Castro district, activists and city officials saw an opportunity to put a dent in the problem. The result is the nation's first Goodwill, and perhaps the first store of any kind, designed as a jobs program for workers whose genders are different from the ones they had at birth.

Seven of the shop's nine employees are transgender, most of them women who used to be men. Like the donated merchandise they collect and sell, all are looking for new lives. They were referred to Goodwill by the Transgender Economic Empowerment Initiative, a non-profit training and employment service that also places workers with Macy's, Trader Joe's, Bank of America and other supportive companies.

"I guess it's fitting that we're working in a place that's based on the concept of 'recycle and reuse,'" said Alexie Scanlon, 38, who was just promoted to assistant manager at the Castro Goodwill. "If you are born in the wrong body, you learn to make use of what you have."

In advance of the store's October opening, the job trainees had to spend a week working at another San Francisco Goodwill, while area Goodwill staff

underwent transgender anti-bias training to minimize misunderstandings over pronoun and restroom usage.

For example, an employee presenting herself as a woman was to be addressed as "she" and directed to the women's room, no questions asked.

Like other thrift stores, the Castro donation center carries an eclectic mix of schlocky tchotchkes, cast-off clutter, used clothing and priceless bargains. In a nod to the neighborhood clientele, the inventory includes a large selection of framed art, an array of blue jeans thoughtfully arranged with the waist sizes showing and a section devoted to pet wear, but no children's clothes. On Black Friday, the business was steady in holiday mugs and candle holders.

"I do most of our window displays, and I go out of my way to put men's slacks and dress shirts on a female mannequin and put the real fancy sequin dresses on a male body just because it is a gay neighborhood and I want to show people there is way more to gender than male and female," says a 20-year-old sales associate who goes by the name Mia TuMutch.

The Castro location is a temporary "pop-up" store that will close when the landlord, who has been letting Goodwill use the space for free, finds a paying tenant. Danielle Simmons, a spokeswoman for Goodwill Industries of San Francisco, San Mateo and Marin Counties, said the nonprofit hopes to use it as a model elsewhere both for employing transgender workers and occupying retail spaces that might otherwise sit empty and invite crime.

TuMutch hopes to find a public relations job when her

stint with Goodwill ends. She says the contacts and interviewing skills she has gained in the meantime have been valuable. "Having a reference I can use is a huge thing," she said. "When I moved to San Francisco, only one out of the 20 places I had worked before knew who I was now. The rest of my references are worthless because they are from people who may not support who I am."

The Transgender Economic Empowerment Initiative was launched as a joint project of the San Francisco LGBT Community Center, Jewish Vocational Services and the Transgender Law Center after a survey of nearly 650 transgender adults in California.

It found that despite being twice as likely to hold college degrees as state residents as a whole, the respondents also were twice as likely to be unemployed. Seventy percent of those surveyed reported having been discriminated against or harassed on the job.

Initiative coordinator Clair Farley said the barriers transgender people face in finding stable work can be both personal and political. California is one of only 12 states where it is illegal to fire someone based on his or her gender identity, meaning that workers may be vulnerable if they transition while on the job. Years of hormones and surgeries can cause health problems, and the decision to switch sexes can leave individuals estranged from their families, Farley said.

"If you've experienced that rejection and discrimination, you may go into a job interview assuming that's going to happen, which often reads to employers as lack of confidence," she said.

Pat Guam International Airport.

The new jetbridge boarding adapter was purchased to improve safety, convenience and customer satisfaction with Cape Air flights and was first used with inbound flight 9313 arriving from Saipan on Nov. 15.

"Passengers previously had to...use...the stairs when boarding and deplaning but thanks to the support and co-operation of the A.B. Won Pat Guam International Airport Authority, we have been able to improve convenience and safety for our passengers by using this

new jetbridge boarding adapter specifically designed for ATR aircraft," said Brian Wessling, regional director, Airport and Cargo Operation - Asia for Continental Airlines.

"This acquisition represents a significant convenience enhancement for passengers and we are delighted to be launching this new offering," said Geoff Price, Pacific administrator for Cape Air. "Today's announcement is a major achievement and we thank Continental Airlines for their help in bringing this to fruition."

Continental Airlines will also continue to work with Saipan's airport authorities to introduce this enhanced service to the Saipan International Airport.

Continental Airlines is a wholly owned subsidiary of United Continental Holdings, Inc., which became the holding company for both United and Continental upon close of the merger transaction. The two airlines will operate separately as they begin to integrate key customer services, marketing activities and airport processes. *(Continental)*

## EU agrees on \$89 billion bailout loan for Ireland

**BRUSSELS** (AP)—European Union nations agreed to give euro67.5 billion (\$89.4 billion) in bailout loans to Ireland on Sunday to help it weather the cost of its massive banking crisis, and sketched out new rules for future emergencies in an effort to restore faith in the euro currency.

The rescue deal, approved by finance ministers at an emergency meeting in Brussels, means two of the eurozone's 16 nations have now come to depend on foreign help and underscores Europe's struggle to contain its spreading debt crisis. The fear is that with Greece and now Ireland shored up, speculative traders will target the bloc's

other weak fiscal links, particularly Portugal.

In Dublin, Irish Prime Minister Brian Cowen said his country will take euro10 billion immediately to boost the capital reserves of its state-backed banks, whose bad loans were picked up by the Irish government but have become too much to handle. Another euro25 billion will remain in reserve, earmarked for the banks.

The rest of the loans will be used to cover Ireland's deficits for the coming four years. EU chiefs also gave Ireland an extra year, until 2015, to reduce its annual deficits to 3 percent of GDP, the eurozone limit. The deficit now stands at a modern

European record of 32 percent because of the runaway costs of its bank-bailout program.

Cowen said the accord—reached after two weeks of tense negotiations in Brussels and Dublin to fathom the true depth of the country's cash crisis—"provides Ireland with vital time and space to successfully and conclusively address the unprecedented problems that we've been dealing with since this global economic crisis began."

However, in a surprise accounting move, European and IMF experts decided that Ireland first must run down its own cash stockpile and deploy its previously off-limits pension reserves in the bailout.

## 'Cyber Monday' deals now last whole week

**NEW YORK** (AP)—After a weekend of strong online sales, retail websites are rolling out the gimmicks on "Cyber Monday" to draw buyers.

The sales promotions on the Monday after Thanksgiving got their name from a retail trade group, which promoted the idea that people, upon returning to work, would log onto their computers there and shop.

Now it's about the deals online in the way that Black Friday means a shopping frenzy in stores. In fact, as stores promote

Black Friday discounts online, it's getting harder to tell the difference between the two as sellers try to grab dollars any way and at any time they can.

IBM's Coremetrics predicts the discounts, free shipping offers and other come-ons will make Cyber Monday the busiest online shopping day of the season.

The promotion follows a weekend that saw strong sales online. From Thanksgiving through Saturday, online spending rose 14 percent, according

to Coremetrics data. It also said shoppers were buying 15 percent more items per order.

Some retailers had already started touting "Cyber Monday," including Amazon.com, which was offering the "Medal of Honor" Xbox 360 game for \$34.99, down from \$59.99, and a \$499 KitchenAid Professional stand mixer for \$299.99.

Walmart.com is promoting "Cyber Week" discounts from Sunday through next Friday, including a 24-inch 1080p HDTV for \$199.

### BUSINESS BRIEFS

**Iraq West Qurna to hit 750K barrels per day**  
**WEST QURNA, Iraq** (AP)—Production from Iraq's prized West Qurna Stage 1 oil field should more than triple to 750,000 barrels a day in three years time, an oil official said Sunday. The 8.6 billion barrel field, which is being developed by a consortium grouping Exxon Mobil and Shell, was among those awarded by Iraq during one its first international oil licensing rounds last year and is seen as a key part of the country's drive to boost overall output of a resource on which it relies for 95 percent of its foreign revenues.

West Qurna Stage 1 currently produces 234,000 barrels per day, Madhi Swadi, the head of the joint management commission that runs the field, told The Associated Press. Output is set to climb to 270,000 barrels per day by May, he said.

### **EU agrees on new rules for future bailouts**

**BRUSSELS** (AP)—European finance ministers agreed Sunday to create a permanent mechanism to solve future debt crises in the 16 countries that use the euro in an attempt to calm fears over the stability of the currency bloc. The plan falls short of demands from Germany, which

had insisted that private creditors—rather than taxpayers—should shoulder the costs of any future government bailouts. The new European Stability Mechanism, which will be launched in mid-2013, could force investors such as banks or hedge funds to take losses if a country runs out of money—but only after other eurozone nations have unanimously agreed that the country is indeed insolvent. If a country is deemed to merely face a crisis of liquidity—that is, it can't access funds quickly enough to repay its debts—it will get emergency loans similar to those signed off on Sunday for Ireland.



# Nation

## Leaked US cables reveal sensitive diplomacy

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—Hundreds of thousands of State Department documents leaked Sunday revealed a hidden world of backstage international diplomacy, divulging candid comments from world leaders and detailing occasional U.S. pressure tactics aimed at hot spots in Afghanistan, Iran and North Korea.

The classified diplomatic cables released by online whistleblower WikiLeaks and reported on by news organizations in the United States and Europe provided often unflattering assessments of foreign leaders, ranging from U.S. allies such as Germany and Italy to other nations like Libya, Iran and Afghanistan.

The cables also contained new revelations about long-simmering nuclear trouble spots, detailing U.S., Israeli and Arab world fears of Iran's growing nuclear program, American concerns about Pakistan's atomic arsenal and U.S. discussions about a united Korean peninsula as a long-term solution to North Korean aggression.

There are also American memos encouraging U.S. diplomats at the United Nations to collect detailed data about the U.N. secretary general, his team and foreign diplomats—going beyond what is considered the normal run of information-gathering expected in diplomatic circles.

None of the revelations is particularly explosive, but their publication could prove problematic for the officials concerned.

The documents published by The New York Times, France's

Le Monde, Britain's Guardian newspaper, German magazine Der Spiegel and others laid out the behind-the-scenes conduct of Washington's international relations, shrouded in public by platitudes, smiles and handshakes at photo sessions among senior officials.

The White House immediately condemned the release of the WikiLeaks documents, saying "such disclosures put at risk our diplomats, intelligence professionals, and people around the world who come to the United States for assistance in promoting democracy and open government."

It also noted that "by its very nature, field reporting to Washington is candid and often incomplete information. It is not an expression of policy, nor does it always shape final policy decisions."

"Nevertheless, these cables could compromise private discussions with foreign governments and opposition leaders, and when the substance of private conversations is printed on the front pages of newspapers across the world, it can deeply impact not only U.S. foreign policy interests, but those of our allies and friends around the world," the White House said.

State Department spokesman P.J. Crowley played down the spying allegations. "Our diplomats are just that, diplomats," he said. "They collect information that shapes our policies and actions. This is what diplomats, from our country and other countries, have done for hun-

dreds of years."

On its website, The New York Times said "the documents serve an important public interest, illuminating the goals, successes, compromises and frustrations of American diplomacy in a way that other accounts cannot match."

WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange claimed the administration was trying to cover up alleged evidence of serious "human rights abuse and other criminal behavior" by the U.S. government.

The documents were again available on the WikiLeaks website Sunday afternoon. The site was inaccessible much of the day, and the group claimed it was under a cyberattack.

But extracts of the more than 250,000 cables posted online by news outlets that had been given advance copies of the documents showed deep U.S. concerns about Iranian and North Korean nuclear programs along with fears about regime collapse in Pyongyang.

The Guardian said some cables showed King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia repeatedly urging the United States to attack Iran to destroy its nuclear program. The newspaper also said officials in Jordan and Bahrain have openly called for Iran's nuclear program to be stopped by any means and that leaders of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Egypt referred to Iran "as 'evil,' an 'existential threat' and a power that 'is going to take us to war,'" The Guardian said.

Those documents may prove

the most problematic because even though the concerns of the Gulf Arab states are known, their leaders rarely offer such stark appraisals in public.

The Times highlighted documents that indicated the U.S. and South Korea were "gaming out an eventual col-

lapse of North Korea" and discussing the prospects for a unified country if the isolated, communist North's economic troubles and political transition lead it to implode.

The paper also cited documents showing the U.S. used hardline tactics to win approval

from countries to accept freed detainees from Guantanamo Bay. It said Slovenia was told to take a prisoner if its president wanted to meet with President Barack Obama and said the Pacific island of Kiribati was offered millions of dollars to take in a group of detainees.



In this June 27, 2006 file photo, reviewed by a US Department of Defense official, U.S. military guards walk within Camp Delta military-run prison, at the Guantanamo Bay U.S. Naval Base, Cuba.

## Police: Pa. couple hid 5 children from society

**YORK, Pa. (AP)**—They lived outside society, hidden from the world in a squalid row house with no heat, electricity or running water. They had no birth certificates, no schooling, no immunizations or evidence of medical care—nothing whatsoever to prove their existence.

Police in this south-central Pennsylvania city are still piecing together how the parents of five children—ranging in age from 2 to 13—managed to conceal them for so many years. And why.

"I don't know what would possess them at all," said detective Dana Ward Jr., who tracked down the children after a child welfare agency received an anonymous tip about the clandestine family.

Ward charged Louann Bowers, 33, and Sinhue Johnson, 45, with five felony counts of child endangerment. They are scheduled to be in court Friday, though Bowers' lawyer said she will waive her right to an arraignment. Both are locked up in York County Prison.

Bowers ran away from "a very chaotic household" when she was 16 and "didn't want to be found," attorney Ronald Gross said.

"I think, unfortunately, Mom's desire to not be found by her family impacted the children's growth," he said. "She realizes now, 'I should have done it differently.'"

Johnson's public defender did not return a phone message seeking comment on the case, which was first reported by The York Dispatch and York Daily Record.

Years of isolation have taken their toll on the siblings. Now living in foster homes, "some of the children suffer health and vision issues," Ward wrote in an affidavit. "None of the children are at their expected education levels, and there are possible mental health issues."

Since their discovery, the children have been vaccinated and the older ones have been enrolled in school.

York County Children and Youth Services became aware of the family through anonymous tips in 2003 and again in 2007, but police said Johnson refused to cooperate with caseworkers.

The agency got another anonymous referral in 2009, this time from someone claiming to be a family member who had seen the children. The agency contacted Johnson again, but he remained uncooperative, court documents state.

That led caseworkers to obtain a court order granting them permission to enter the dilapidated house on South Duke Street. By the time they arrived, the family had fled.

Ward said it appeared that all seven family members had lived in a single room on the second

floor. He said all the utilities were shut off. Rainwater came through the leaky roof and was collected in buckets.

Police tracked the family to a hotel outside York. Johnson was gone, but Bowers opened the door, her head concealed by a dark veil. The detective found the children hiding in a bathroom, three girls and two boys. They hadn't bathed and appeared unkempt. They left with investigators without saying a word—and refused to provide any information.

"They did say that they were not permitted to talk about the family or the living conditions," Ward said.

The lack of cooperation from either the children or Johnson and Bowers has stymied investigators' efforts to learn more about the family's circumstances.

The fact that almost no one knew about the children is even more puzzling because of the urban setting in which they lived. Neighbors say they never saw them, not even once.

Charlton Shaw, 56, a roofer who lives several doors down, said he was unaware of the children's existence until Johnson and Bowers were arrested. "I said, holy heck, how did they do that? You never heard a sound. No kids crying, no kids coming or going," said Shaw, who has lived on the block for 10 years. "How do you mess up the kids' futures like that?"



### ACROSS THE NATION

#### FBI: Planes, dogs, psych experts seek 3 Mich. boys

**MORENCI, Mich. (AP)**—The head of Detroit's FBI office says two planes, police dogs and the agency's behavioral science experts are aiding the search for three southern Michigan boys who went missing on the same day their father tried to hang himself. Police in Morenci say they fear the boys are in "extreme danger," and the father hasn't been ruled out as a suspect. Chief Larry Weeks says 39-year-old John Skelton is being treated at a hospital in Ohio for "mental health issues" following Friday's suicide attempt. Nine-year-old Andrew, 7-year-old Alexander and 5-year-old Tanner Skelton were last seen Thursday. Tanya Skelton reported them missing Friday after her estranged husband failed to return them on time.

#### Ohioans raise cash for kids of victims put in tree

**HOWARD, Ohio (AP)**—Residents in a small Ohio community devastated after the bodies of two women and an 11-year-old boy were found in a tree are raising money for the victims' families. A restaurant called the Breezy Bay in Howard is hosting an auction Sunday. The general manager says people have donated bicycles, tools and an antique gas pump to be put up for sale. The proceeds will benefit Sarah Maynard, who was found bound and gagged in

the basement of an unemployed tree-cutter days before the bodies of her mother, Tina Herrmann; brother, Kody Maynard; and family friend, Stephanie Sprang, were found in garbage bags inside a hollow tree. The money will also go to Sprang's children. The tree-trimmer has been charged with one count of kidnapping. He's also suspected in the murders.

#### NJ anti-Facebook pastor to resume job in 90 days

**NEPTUNE, N.J. (AP)**—A pastor who barred church officials from using Facebook, saying it can lead to adultery, will take a 90-day sabbatical and return to his post, a church elder announced Sunday. The decision follows the pastor's admission that he engaged in a three-way sexual relationship a decade ago. Leaders at the Living Word Christian Fellowship Church in Neptune gave the Rev. Cedric Miller a vote of confidence as the church's spiritual leader during a meeting Monday, Associate Reverend Linda Parreott said during church services. Miller announced earlier this week that he would be "taking some time off" and planned to return to his post at a later date. He offered to step down after the Asbury Park Press reported on court testimony he gave in April 2003. In it, he admitted having a threesome with his wife and a male church assistant and said the encounters sometimes took place during Thursday Bible study meetings and Sundays after church.



# Asia



A North Korean female soldier, right, looks back as she and another patrol on a pathway along the bank of the Yalu River, the China-North Korea border river, near North Korea's town of Sinuiju, opposite to the Chinese border city of Dandong, Sunday Nov. 28, 2010.

## SKorea leader vows consequences for NKorean attack

**SEOUL, South Korea (AP)**—South Korea's president on Monday took responsibility for failing to protect his citizens from a deadly North Korean artillery attack last week, vowing tough consequences for any future aggression and expressing outrage over the "ruthlessness of the North Korean regime."

Lee Myung-bak's short speech to the country came as a nuclear-powered U.S. supercarrier and a South Korean destroyer participated in joint military exercises, a united show of force nearly a week after an artillery barrage on Yeonpyeong island killed four, including two civilians.

Amid the heightened tension, classified U.S. State Department documents leaked Sunday by on-line whistle-blower WikiLeaks showed the United States and South Korea discussing possible scenarios for reunification of the peninsula, and American worry over Pyongyang's nuclear weapons program.

Under pressure to take stronger action in dealing with the defiant North, Lee lashed out at Pyongyang.

"Only a few meters away from where shells landed, there is a school where classes were going on," Lee said. "I am outraged by the ruthlessness of the North Korean regime, which is even indifferent to the lives of little children."

Lee has come under withering criticism for what opponents have called lapses in South Korea's response to the attack. Lee has replaced his defense minister, ordered reinforcements for the 4,000 troops on Yeonpyeong and four other Yellow Sea islands and upgraded rules of engagement.

"If the North commits any additional provocations against the South, we will make sure that it pays a dear price without fail," Lee said. "The South Korean people now unequivocally understand that prolonged endurance and tolerance will

spawn nothing but more serious provocations."

He didn't offer specifics about what consequences the North would face, and he offered few details on what actions South Korea will take in response to last week's attack, other than promising to strengthen the military.

"I feel deeply responsible for failing to protect my people's lives and property," Lee said. In South Korea, it is not rare for top officials to resign, apologize or express responsibility when their government faces public criticism.

Minutes after Lee finished his speech, North Korea issued a fresh threat to attack South Korea and the United States, calling the allies' joint war drills "yet another grave military provocation."

The maneuvers are an "intentional plot" by the United States and South Korea to prepare for war against North Korea, Pyongyang's main Rodong Sinmun newspaper said in a commentary.

# World

## Brazil police raid gang-ridden Rio slum

**RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)**—Police and soldiers charged into Rio's most dangerous slum at daybreak Sunday, seizing the bastion of the city's biggest drug gang in a battle to make the seaside metropolis safe for the Olympics and soccer's World Cup.

Black-clad officers poured into the Alemao slum complex amid heavy gunfire, with helicopters flying low overhead. But the officers encountered less resistance than expected and they declared victory two hours later, even if many gang members still remained inside.

A Brazilian flag was raised at the shantytown's highest point at midday.

It was the biggest victory yet in a two-year effort to drive drug gangs from their strongholds in the hundreds of shantytowns, many draped across the hills around Rio's beaches, a crusade driven in part by the need to make foreign visitors feel secure for the final matches of the 2014 World Cup and for the 2016 Olympics that are meant to be showpieces of Brazil's emergence as growing world force.

Rio de Janeiro Gov. Sergio Cabral said the campaign against gangs will go forward. "We will continue to conquer more territories and give peace to our citizens and the

foreign visitors who come here," he told Globo TV.

Officials have already imposed order on more than a dozen other former gang strongholds, even encouraging tourism along streets once echoing with gunfire.

The gangs, feeling threatened, reacted violently, mounting mass robberies of motorists on key highways, burning more than 100 buses and cars and shooting up police outposts.

The government counterattacked with hundreds of soldiers and thousands of police in armored vehicles, first driving the gangsters from the Vila Cruzeiro slum on Thursday, then neighboring Alemao—their most ambitious target yet—72 hours later.

At least 36 people, mostly suspected drug traffickers, have died in the gang violence and resulting police raids in the past week.

Officials earlier warned that as many as 600 gang members were holed up in Alemao, a district of some 85,000 people, but by nightfall Sunday they had made only a handful of arrests, including a few of the slum's reputed top gang leaders.

Police said they think at least 200 gangsters remain hidden in the slum, and warned that sporadic shootouts were likely in the coming days.

At least one suspected trafficker was killed in the invasion and at least two people were injured.

"We won," said Mario Sergio Duarte, head of Rio state's military police. "We brought freedom to the residents of Alemao."

Inside the slum, large piles of trash littered a main dirt road that ran with raw sewage. The iron gates of storefronts were drawn, their surfaces pocked with bullet holes. Spent rifle casings littered streets. Slum residents, under siege for days, took advantage of the break to restock food supplies. Old women, young boys and teenagers leaned against the edges of their squat shacks quietly surveying the new scene, but often hustled inside when a police contingent walked by.

Some residents said the government had a negligible presence in the area for at least a decade and feared it would not last.

"The gangs will be back. I have no doubt they escaped and will return after the police leave," said a young pregnant woman, whispering and declining to give her name for fear both of gangs and of the police standing guard a few feet away. "How big a police post will they need to secure this whole place? I don't think they can do it."



An alleged drug trafficker known as Zeu, center, is arrested during a police operation at the Complexo do Alemao slum in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Sunday, Nov. 28, 2010.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### Philippines delays sending workers to South Korea

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)**—The Philippines has delayed by a week the departure of 50 workers to jobs in South Korea because of high tensions there. Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Esteban Conejos said Saturday officials decided it was more prudent to defer their departure until the tension subsides. The workers were supposed to leave on Monday. Conejos said the workers were hired under an employment arrangement between the countries. About 46,000 Filipinos work in South Korea mostly in factories, service industries and construction companies. The Philippine government condemned North Korea's artillery attack on a South Korean island on Tuesday that killed two marines and two South Korean civilians.

#### Rebels free ailing Philippine soldier held 12 days

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)**—Communist guerrillas freed a captive soldier Sunday because the ailing man apparently slowed their movement as troops hunted the rebels in the southern Philippines, the military said. New People's Army rebels turned over army Corporal Daem Hadjaie to local officials in Compostela Valley province after 12 days of jungle captivity, regional military spokesman Lt. Col. Medel Aguilar said. Hadjaie was unharmed but was taken to a military hospital. A former Muslim rebel who has been integrated into the army under a 1996 peace deal, Hadjaie was abducted by the communist rebels Nov. 16 in Compostela's Moncayo town while en route to a hospital to seek treatment for stomach pain, Aguilar said.

#### Officials: Targets survived US missile in Pakistan

**MIR ALI, Pakistan (AP)**—The targets of a suspected U.S. missile strike in Pakistan's northwestern militant strongholds appeared to have survived Sunday by quickly abandoning their vehicle after an unmanned aircraft missed its first shot, local officials said. It was one of the few reports of anyone surviving one of the escalating barrage of missiles fired by remotely piloted aircraft, which have become a key weapon in the wider U.S.-led war against Islamist militants in Afghanistan. Local Pakistani television initially reported four people killed in the latest American attack in North Waziristan, where Taliban and al-Qaida-allied fighters control safe havens outside the central government's control.

### WORLD BRIEFS

#### Mexico captures an alleged leader of Aztecas gang

**MEXICO CITY (AP)**—Mexico's federal police have captured a presumed leader of a cross-border drug gang suspected in dozens of killings, including the slaying of a U.S. consulate worker, authorities announced Sunday. Arturo Gallegos Castellon, 32, was arrested Saturday in the border city of Ciudad Juarez, which is considered the most violent city in Mexico. Gallegos is suspected in last January's killing of 15 youths at a party,

a massacre that shocked even the violence-hardened people of Ciudad Juarez, and in the March murder of a U.S. consulate employee in that city, regional security chief Luis Cardenas Palomino said. The alleged gang leader is also accused of killing five federal agents in unrelated attacks.

#### Ivory Coast gov't says two dead during voting

**ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast (AP)**—An Ivory Coast government official reported two deaths among other incidents of violence and voter intimidation

in the volatile west of the country on state TV only hours after polls closed in a contentious presidential election on Sunday. Interior Ministry official Auguste Zoguehi reported that one soldier and one citizen were killed in the town of Niboua and listed a dozen other minor incidents of clashes between supporters of sitting President Laurent Gbagbo and his opponent Alassane Ouattara as well as cases of interference in the electoral process. The opposition also leveled accusations of voter intimidation, kidnapping and violence.



# Focus

By **TED ANTHONY**  
AP NATIONAL WRITER

**H**is overalls are weathered. His white beard is grown out to aging-hippie perfection. The tattoos on his arms tell the story of a moment from the summer of 1969 that has passed into legend—three days of peace and music that became a doorway to defining an era.

Around him sits the patch of upstate New York farmland that gave birth to a piece of modern mythology—Woodstock. At 68, Duke Devlin reflects on the definitive concert of his youth by spinning tales of community and anti-authoritarianism that end, invariably, with the word “man.” As in, “Sometimes I’m amazed that we’re still talking about this, man.”

Of course we’re still talking about it. And, as a historical interpreter at the festival’s site, it’s Devlin’s job to talk about it, to tell the story of the ‘60s. Unlike so many today who say they were at Woodstock, he actually was. And still is.

Woodstock was a flashpoint, a culmination, one easy way to distill a complicated decade into something digestible. That it happened as the 1960s ended made it all the more convenient: Here was an empty vessel, complete with soundtrack and instantly mythic imagery, that provided the perfect raw material to build a narrative around an era.

A half century after the 1960s began, that is precisely what we have done with the decade—and with the 10-year periods that came before and after it. We’ve wrestled them into grand stories with convenient contours and reliable patchworks of imagery. And when it comes to the ‘60s, what a confusing, disjointed patchwork it is.

For every textured civil-rights documentary, there is a \$15.95 inflatable beehive hairdo. For every meticulously researched history of the protest movement, there is a Walmart peace-sign spiral notebook. For every Duke Devlin, there is an Austin Powers.

The 1960s have been idealized and vilified, romanticized and boiled down into a cultural demiglace with an intense taste but very little of the subtlety that the real decade offered.

“It’s no longer self-expression. It’s a fashion,” says Wade Lawrence, director of the Museum at Bethel Woods, which oversees the site where Woodstock happened. “We like simple things. We



This two picture combination shows above: in a Jan. 20, 1961 file photo, U.S. President John F. Kennedy delivers his inaugural address after taking the oath of office at Capitol Hill in Washington, and below, in a May 4, 1970 file photo, Mary Ann Vecchio gestures and screams as she kneels by the body of a student lying face down on the campus of Kent State University, Kent, Ohio.

Miller to the Backstreet Boys in 15 seconds. The only problem: It’s utterly arbitrary. “Teen Angel,” so evocative of a 1950s high-school dance, might show up on the ‘60s station because it topped charts in February 1960. But cuts from the Beatles’ swansong album “Let It Be,” released in 1970, belong to the ‘70s channel. It’s hard to keep track.

“The present now will later be past,” Bob Dylan sang. “The order is rapidly fading.”

■ ■ ■ ■

In a remix culture, decade-driven history can bewilder. How many Americans learned about the ‘70s through “That ‘70s Show” (1998-2006) or the ‘50s through “Happy Days” (1974-84)? Now the ‘80s are getting just as jumbled.

If you came of age in the Reagan era, you remember the cliques. The New Wavers who listened to Devo. The girls who drooled over Rick Springfield. The burnouts who smoked outside metal shop and jammed to hair bands. The brooding alt crowd that wore black eyeliner and worshipped the Cure.

Now it’s all melted into a single nostalgic celebration, evoked with phrases like “Gag me with a spoon” and glorified by retro cover bands like the evocatively named Ferris Bueller’s Revenge.

“Once we got older, it just merged together,” says Shawn Maudhuit, 40, one of the suburban Pittsburgh band’s members. “It’s not alternative, not hair. It’s ‘80s.”

The 1980s are in vogue for two key reasons: First, they are just distant enough for a new generation of teenagers to view them as “vintage.” Second, those who came of age in the ‘80s are now in their late 30s and early 40s, many with the disposable income to relive glory days.

Trafficking in decade imagery is a balancing act. You cultivate authenticity—but only to a point. Naturally, when you’re an ‘80s party band charging a cover for people who want a fun night out, you don’t mention AIDS or Iran-Contra or the Challenger blowing up. Or even ballads.

“We don’t want people to start thinking and getting sentimental on the dance floor,” Maudhuit says. “You’ll still have the girls and the guys who are standing on the side with no one to dance with. We don’t want people to remember that. No ‘Careless Whisper.’ No ‘Open Arms.’ We want them to think of the positive things about the ‘80s.”

But so what? Why not summon history through the rearview window of popular culture? After

## Through the past, darkly:

# The ‘60s at 50, blurred

like sound bites. We like a simple, one-sentence explanation of an era.”

And so it is with the country’s view of its recent history. In America, the past is raw material. History gets compressed, packaged, marketed. Into the grinder goes complexity; out comes cliché. And we help it along, deciding arbitrarily that a decade—the time between two years that end in zeros and little more—is a useful way to measure history.

Duke Devlin trolls the Woodstock site on a golf cart, his enthusiasm undiminished by time’s passage. “Something happened here,” he says. But as with the rest of that decade in America, what it was still ain’t exactly clear.

■ ■ ■ ■

The notion of a decade as a distinct unit of time has existed through much of American history, but it wasn’t until the 1920s that life sped up enough for one 10-year period to be considered an era with its own unique identity.

It didn’t hurt that the first decades after World War I aligned themselves with historical currents. You can view the ‘20s pretty reasonably from 1918 to 1929 (the end of World War I through the market crash), and the ‘30s as 1929 to 1941 (the Depression to World War II).

Then it gets more complicated. What were the ‘40s—as narrow as the war years of 1941-1945 or as broad as 1939-1951? What were the ‘50s? Some make the case that they began in 1946.

And the ‘60s? Even thornier.

One person will assert they began with Kennedy’s inauguration (1961) and ended with the shootings at Kent State (1970). Another might count from Kennedy’s assassination (1963) until Nixon’s resignation (1974) or even until Saigon fell (1975).

Once you divide the century into distinct periods, each becomes far easier to package and sell. The 1920s were flappers and spats and gangsters and speakeasies. The 1930s were bread lines and dust-bowl shacks and fireside chats and the silver screen. The 1940s were GIs and big bands and Rosie the Riveter and Levittown. The 1950s were sock hops and Ward Cleaver and Elvis and Tupperware.

Skip to the 1970s—pet rocks and mood rings and Farrah and disco and maybe, if you’re serious-minded, Watergate and the energy crisis. Whereas the ‘80s were thin ties and mousse and legwarmers, wine coolers and Rubik’s Cubes and “Miami Vice” pastels. Not to mention the fall of communism.

But let’s zoom in on the many long, strange trips that began in 1960 and led, today, to what we know as “the 1960s.”

One journey begins with the Kennedy era—the uneasy segue from Eisenhower-era conformity and simmering discontent into the coming decade’s tumult—and comes out the other end as mod furniture, lounge music and the “Mad Men” cocktail-mixing iPhone app.

Another begins with the Cuban missile crisis, anti-Communist paranoia and militant radicalism, and emerges as Chairman Mao coffee mugs and

Che Guevara T-shirts on sale at the mall.

Another begins with subversive drug experimentation and complex anti-authoritarianism, and emerges as theme restaurants and bars that feature lava lamps, beads hanging over doorways and posters with swirling, ballooning typefaces.

Still another begins with Woodstock and comes out the other end as novelty-shop products from Forum Novelties of Melville, N.Y.—items like the “Generation Hippie Costume Kit,” containing a mustache, wig, sideburns and glasses (with “patchwork shirt” as an “optional accessory”).

Then there are the thematic ‘60s: The mod ‘60s. The folk ‘60s, which grew into the psychedelic ‘60s, which are related to the sitar-and-yoga ‘60s. The civil-rights ‘60s, which intersect with the Camelot ‘60s and the war-on-poverty ‘60s. The Living Room War ‘60s, which collide with the what-are-these-damn-kids-doing ‘60s. The hippie, yippie, Haight-Ashbury ‘60s, the bra-burning ‘60s, the Helter-Skelter ‘60s.

Each contains kernels of truth and a heavy dose of myth. All overlap. Many are in conflict. It’s complicated, but you wouldn’t know that by how we consume the decade today—neatly, coherently, everything the real ‘60s weren’t.

Just listen to the satellite radio stations that package every decade from the 1940s through the 1990s by their songs. Push a single button and you can ride through the 20th century on a musical time machine, zooming straight from Glenn

all, this stuff became iconic for a reason: At some point, it really meant something. It was a soundtrack to coming of age. And many people—now simply aging—don’t want that to go away.

Packaging history is a natural instinct, particularly today when so much that comes at us is fragmentary and disjointed. Humans have to wrangle time, to organize it into containers that make sense of life.

But packaging some things means leaving important others behind. We can, in effect, choose our 1960s from a buffet of cultural fragments. And each depends upon what the package is trying to sell.

If you’re Nostalgiaville USA, the 20th-century trinket emporium along I-70 in Kingdom City, Mo., PEZ dispensers and “Laugh-In” photos and other pop iconography are your bread and butter. You’re not really focusing on the poor Appalachians that LBJ and RFK tried to help.

If you’re the chain store Party City, you traffic in costumes that will immediately evoke the “fun” 1960s, not James Meredith desegregating Ole Miss. If you’re producing “The Wonder Years,” you gin up grainy home movies for your opening credits and overlay a snippet of Joe Cocker singing at Woodstock.

But as time goes by, these anecdotal stand-ins shift to the front row. Instead of just evoking a decade, they become how we think about it. Then we start misremembering the past. Worse, we don’t even know we’re doing it.

See **THROUGH** on next page



## F O C U S

## THROUGH

From Page 17

"You watch stuff about the '50s and '60s, it's a caricature," says Gus Crenson, 89, a longtime PR man who teaches a class on the 1950s to senior citizens in Baltimore.

"But I suppose movies about the '20s that we were watching in the '30s and the '40s were taking the same approach," he says. "We were watching movies about speakeasies and girls wearing short skirts and not the things that were really happening. It's a real concern, and I think it travels through history."

■ ■ ■ ■

On one episode of "Family Guy," the Griffin family is eating at a theme diner called "Nifty Fifties."

A Marilyn Monroe waitress and a James Dean waiter walk by. Then another server hobbles up with metal devices attached to his legs. "I have polio," he says. Finally, the Griffins' black friend Cleveland enters. He is immediately confronted by attack dogs and five policemen who hose him out the door.

"Oh, that takes me back," Cleveland says, smiling.

tural marketing, remixed and repurposed as much as the peace sign itself. In an era when half of Americans were born after Kent State, the 1960s are raw material for evoking emotions, moments, desires.

Ask the ascendant generation: What comes to mind when someone says, "the 1960s"? Here's a Facebook response from Julie Hoffman, 17, a Pennsylvania high school student: "I think of old VW buggys. beautiful muscle cars. protests against government. black rights movement. barefoot hippys. bands like the beatles. oh and the big mustaches."

She's not wrong. But there was so much more. Learning from history—teaching our children well, particularly when it comes to a decade that changed us so much—requires more than clichés and contextless fragments.

"You try to help students see, trends don't automatically shift once that zero comes," says Jeanne Petit, a historian at Hope College in Holland, Mich., who teaches today's college students about their parents' and grandparents' world. "When people see the '60s in those simplified terms, it's easy to simplify the political debates today."

We see the world, the saying goes, through a glass, darkly. And when the complexity of



This two picture combination shows, on the left: concert-goers sit on the roof of a Volkswagen bus at the Woodstock Music and Arts Fair at Bethel, N.Y., in mid-August, 1969; and on the right, in a photo made available by Forum Novelties, a model displays a "Generation Hippie" costume for sale on the company's website.

AP

When we consume packaged versions of our past, we're often seeking entertainment. But history is not always fun. It's dirty, confusing, complicated and sometimes downright unpleasant.

The Depression was certainly unpleasant—and became fodder for a line of clothing based on Dorothea Lange's photos of dust-bowl misery. The 1950s were a blend of prosperity, paranoia and discontent—and are now evoked across the country by milkshake-toting carhops in saddle shoes and ponytails roller-skating to "Mr. Sandman."

The period between John F. Kennedy's assassination and Saigon's fall was one of the most tumultuous of all, yet Billy Joel manages, in the poppy history anthem "We Didn't Start the Fire," to sum it up like this: "Birth control, Ho Chi Minh, Richard Nixon back again. Moon shot, Woodstock, Watergate, punk rock."

There are exceptions. "Mad Men" meticulously slices the 1960s into detailed segments, painstakingly avoiding cliché as it examines the lives Americans lived as change swirled around them. HBO's new "Boardwalk Empire" is doing the same thing with the 1920s.

That kind of subtlety can change outlooks. "Usually, you look back on another era in terms of the milestones," "Mad Men" star Elisabeth Moss said in 2008. "But at the same time, people were just living their lives."

The '60s as a historical period are in danger of becoming more misunderstood than ever—precisely because of their endless re-distillation by people with stories to tell and products to sell.

Today, tourists come to Woodstock in sandals and tie-dye T-shirts, not knowing—or perhaps not caring—that few at the concert actually wore tie-dye. For most Americans, Woodstock has become a data point for cul-

a decade is illuminated with cheap flashlights, things can cloud up even more. The past fades. The same perils present themselves. And if we're not careful, history repeats itself.

"An era can be said to end," the playwright Arthur Miller wrote, "when its basic illusions are exhausted."

He meant ideals, and whether they endure remains a topic of fierce debate when it comes to the 1960s. But in one sense Miller was right: If you judge his words literally, the decade is thriving. Its illusions remain, and remain potent.

What we wish to have happened is one thing; what really happened is starkly different. Could it be that, instead of processing and understanding complex historical periods, we have simply domesticated them so they no longer can bite?

Imagine a 2000s theme party in, say, 2035. Your guests will snack on Mario Batali frozen hors d'oeuvres, dance to "Single Ladies" and wear Snooki outfits. The guy in the corner might be dressed as Tony Soprano or Simon Cowell. Some people, gathered in the kitchen, will be playing the interactive retro drinking game called "Status Update."

You probably won't see much 9/11 imagery. The inevitable nostalgic conversations won't extend to discussions about the Afghanistan or Iraq wars. Most of the decade's other defining themes—the fading of the American middle class, the collapse of the financial industry, the erosion of privacy and the runaway political polarization—have no place here, either.

It's a party, after all. There is fun to be had, imagery to be consumed, a past to be packaged. And in the only country where "the pursuit of happiness" is enshrined in the founding document, the tension between history and "history" is a sure thing every time.

## Overdrive

## Gas-price forecast for holiday road trips

By STEVEN COLE SMITH  
THE ORLANDO SENTINEL

**ORLANDO, Fla.**—Planning a road trip for the holidays? There's good news and bad news regarding gas prices and supply. Here's a look at what to expect:

**QUESTION: Good news first, please?**

**ANSWER:** Gas prices are stable, and there are no major factors in sight that would dramatically shift prices up or down before the end of the year. Once again, we dodged the hurricane season, and the BP spill doesn't seem to have had much of an effect.

**Q: And the bad news?**

**A:** Gas prices are up compared to last year. The national average is \$2.89 a gallon, compared to \$2.64 a year ago. Most of the increase is attributed to a slight rally in the U.S. economy that increased demand, to a small rise in crude oil prices, and increased global demand in emerging markets such as China.

**Q: Is heating oil affecting gasoline prices?**

**A:** "So far, not so much this year," said Jessica Brady, public relations manager for AAA South in Tampa, Fla. We are seeing, Brady said, a slight dip in oil reserves, and some of that is attributed to heating oil. But so far, a relatively mild weather up north hasn't upset prices. The federal U.S. Energy Information Administration

in Washington, an information clearinghouse for the Department of Energy, projects average household expenditures for heating fuels will total \$965 this winter, about the same as last year.

**Q: Has this been a normal year in terms of gas prices?**

**A:** Not at all, Brady said: "It has been a very atypical year." For instance, gas prices usually peak during the summer travel season. This year, they peaked in April. "There have been few predictable trends," she said.

**Q: So will we see \$3-a-gallon gas this holiday season?**

**A:** According to the most recent forecast from the EIA, expect a national average for regular gasoline of \$2.84 per gallon this winter, 19 cents per gallon higher than last winter. Diesel fuel prices are expected to average \$3.09 per gallon this winter, an increase of 29 cents per gallon over last winter.

**Q: What's the long-term forecast?**

**A:** Here are the numbers from the EIA projections for 2011, and some historical perspective, to give you an idea of the trend: A gallon of regular gas averaged \$3.26 in 2008, \$2.35 in 2009, and EIA predicts an average of \$2.77 for 2010. For 2011, the organization expects an average of \$2.97—still under \$3 a gallon, but not by much. EIA forecaster Neil Gamson said the projected increase

includes slightly higher crude oil prices, the potential for an uptick in the economy that could raise demand, and a more active "driving season."

**WHERE TO FIND CHEAP GAS:**

You probably know where to find the cheapest gas in your own neighborhood, but what about when you're 100, or 1,000, miles from home? Here's some help.

GasBuddy.com has 204 separate sites that allow you to check gas prices by city, state or ZIP code in the U.S. and Canada. I punched in my ZIP code, which is in a very rural area, and got back three local stations with prices immediately on regular, mid-grade, premium and diesel fuel. Click on the station you choose, and you'll get a map showing where it is. GasPriceWatch.com has similar information.

**Get away from the exit:** Real estate is typically the highest at exits for expressways and toll roads on property the closest to the highway, so a station a mile down the road may be cheaper.

**Onboard systems:** GPS and other navigation systems often have information on gas stations you can check on the road.

Steven Cole Smith is the automotive editor at the Orlando Sentinel in Florida. Send questions to [scsmith@orlandosentinel.com](mailto:scsmith@orlandosentinel.com).



## Even 'beaters' need periodic investments

By PAUL BRAND  
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

**QUESTION: I recently brought my 2000 Nissan Maxima to the dealer for the 120,000-mile service. The list of suggested repairs included: broken engine mounts, broken lower control arm bushings, high pressure hose leak and engine timing cover leak. Should I have any of these fixed?**

**ANSWER:** No question, broken engine mounts and broken/worn/damaged lower control arm bushings should be repaired to ensure the integrity and safety of the vehicle. Fluid leaks aren't catastrophic unless you allow the fluid level to fall below a safe level, although replacement shouldn't be terribly expensive.

If you're planning to keep the vehicle—it's approaching "beater" status in terms of resale value—fix the critical issues, or trade for something newer, fresher and with lower miles.

■ ■ ■ ■

**Q: I have a 1978 Mercury Cougar that sat in the garage for six years. I had all the fluids changed and it runs great, but when I stop at a red light, the oil light will flicker. If I put it in neutral or am driving, the light will stay off. Will this cause damage to the engine?**

**A:** Most oil pressure warning lights will illuminate if engine oil

pressure falls below about 4 to 6psi. If there's no load on the engine—it's just idling in gear—oil pressure that low probably won't do any damage. But the low oil pressure at idle may well indicate damage or wear that has already occurred. This is an old vehicle, likely with high mileage. Having sat for many years and then started without pre-oiling the lubrication system, additional wear to the engine main and rod bearings may have occurred.

There are two simple, inexpensive "fixes" that should eliminate the oil light coming on at idle. First, make sure you're using motor oil that's appropriate for that generation engine. I would suggest 10W-40 or even 20W-50 in warm weather. The thicker oil film, compared to a 5W oil, should generate slightly higher oil pressure. Even adding something like STP—a very high viscosity additive—could help.

And secondly, adjust the idle speed up about 50 to 100 rpm. The slightly higher engine speed will drive the oil pump slightly faster and produce higher oil pressure.

Although it's highly unlikely, there's one more potential cause for the low oil pressure at idle: debris preventing the oil pressure relief valve in the engine from fully seating.

As long as the engine runs well and isn't starting to clatter or rattle

when the oil light comes on, you should be OK. The only permanent "fix" would be to rebuild or replace the engine.

■ ■ ■ ■

**Q: I have a 2008 Ford Explorer that I purchased new. Ever since, the brake pedal has been very resistant to going down when applying the brakes in a panic situation. There's high resistance to pushing the pedal down quickly. The brakes work fine in normal braking. The problem becomes much worse when it is cold and there is no way to stop fast when it is 20 degrees below zero or colder.**

**A:** If the brake pedal is very stiff when temperatures are well below freezing, moisture in the vacuum check valve in the power brake booster vacuum line may be freezing. This would feel just like pushing the brake pedal with the engine shut off and no power assist.

My Alldata automotive database also pulled up bulletin No. 09-1-6 dated January 2009 that addresses concerns over the feel of the brake pedal on 2006-08 Explorers. The bulletin suggests bleeding the brakes using the ABS control unit procedure. A new brake pedal assembly has also been issued.

Paul Brand, author of *How to Repair Your Car*, is an automotive troubleshooter, driving instructor and former race-car driver.



## Life & Style

# Long-time island chef joins PIC's culinary team

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Pacific Islands Club, the largest resort chain in Micronesia, proudly welcomes the newest addition to its highly accomplished food and beverage team.

Habib Akbar joined the Pacific Islands Club as executive chef beginning Nov. 1. As executive chef, he takes charge of overseeing all restaurant operations at the resort.

Akbar took over the position left vacant by the hotel's former chief culinarian, Australian native Darren Ferral.

Originally from Islamabad, Pakistan, Akbar credits his mother for starting his scullery training.

"When I was small, I would assist her in preparing food because I really liked to learn more about cooking. She let me help her and I started learning. I told myself that one day, I'm going to be a chef in a hotel. And it came true," he said.

Akbar moved to Saipan in 1989 to work for Hyatt Regency Saipan, before moving to the Palms Resort Saipan, and now the Pacific Islands Club. These moves have brought him to the central, the northern, and now the southern part of Saipan.

Akbar says his over two decades experience on island has allowed him to know first-hand the distinctive flavors, cuisines, and cultures of Saipan's diverse market.

"Through my years of experience, I have greatly improved. I love this job. I love to cook and I would make sure the guests en-



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Executive Chef Habib Akbar officially joined Pacific Islands Club last Nov. 1.

joy the food so they come back and visit us again," said Akbar.

Despite his vast experience, Akbar acknowledges that joining Pacific Islands Club poses new challenges.

"Pacific Islands Club is more challenging for me because it's a big operation. But these challenges will give me a chance to improve my knowledge about food and cooking," he said.

He is confident, however, that he will rise to the challenges, backed by Pacific Islands Club's 50-member culinary team that's behind the successes of The Magellan, The Galley, Seaside Grill, Buoy Bar, Pool Bar, and Beachside BBQ.

"It's very good to work with the hotel staff and team. They are hard workers and they are



CLARISSA V. DAVID

The cold station at Magellan's lunch buffet.

good people. They're listening and they're willing to follow and learn," he said.

With the help of his new team, Akbar said he will be infusing

modern changes to the hotel's diverse culinary offerings.

In fact, Akbar has already introduced to Magellan's celebrated lunch buffet a new Indian



CLARISSA V. DAVID

The sumptuous dessert treats.

food station that features Indian dishes like the Lentil dish, the Indian flat bread called *naan*, and his own version of a curry dish that he aptly calls Habib Chicken Curry.

"That's my specialty. It's the best curry not only on Saipan but the whole Micronesia region," he said.

Aside from Indian dishes, Akbar said the hotel will also offer more international cuisines, from Asian and Mediterranean to American and European cooking.

And since the Pacific Islands Club has a lot of Japanese, Korean, and Russian patrons, Akbar said their buffet will remain stocked with all-time favorites like kimchi, a Japanese station, and Beef Stroganoff, the classic and flavorsome Russian dish.

Akbar also promised to use fresh and local produce as well as bring in healthy food preparation.

"I see that everybody now is more conscious about their

health. We will offer our diners non-greasy, non-fatty, and non-oily food and introduce vegetables in the menu. Eating healthy food is important," he said.

Akbar promises that his passion and zest for cooking will make the food at Pacific Islands Club stand out. "I cook with my heart," he said with pride.

The Magellan offers a breakfast buffet from Monday to Sunday, 7am to 10 am at \$20 per adult and \$10 per child. Lunch buffet from Monday to Saturday is at \$23 per adult and \$11.50 per child. The famous Sunday Lunch Buffet is priced at \$26 per adult and \$13 per child, with live entertainment from the in-house band. All lunch buffets are from 11am to 2pm. Dinner buffets are from 6:30pm to 9pm and worth \$33 per adult and \$16.50 per child. 20-percent local discount applies to all buffets.

For reservation or more information, contact 237-5132.

## Leslie Nielsen of 'Naked Gun' fame dies at age 84

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Leslie Nielsen, who traded in his dramatic persona for inspired bumbling as a hapless doctor in "Airplane!" and the accident-prone detective Frank Drebin in "The Naked Gun" comedies, died on Sunday in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. He was 84.

The Canadian-born actor died from complications from pneumonia at a hospital near his home at 5:34 p.m., surrounded by his wife, Barbaree, and friends, his agent John S. Kelly said in a statement.

"We are saddened by the passing of beloved actor Leslie Nielsen, probably best remembered as Lt. Frank Drebin in 'The Naked Gun' series of pictures, but who enjoyed a more than 60-year career in motion pictures and television," said Kelly.

Nielsen came to Hollywood in the mid-1950s after performing in 150 live television dramas in New York. With a craggily handsome face, blond

hair and 6-foot-2 height, he seemed ideal for a movie leading man.

Nielsen first performed as the king of France in the Paramount operetta "The Vagabond King" with Kathryn Grayson.

The film—he called it "The Vagabond Turkey"—flopped, but MGM signed him to a seven-year contract.

His first film for that studio was auspicious—as the space ship commander in the science fiction classic "Forbidden Planet." He found his best dramatic role as the captain of an overturned ocean liner in the 1972 disaster movie, "The Poseidon Adventure."

He became known as a serious actor, although behind the camera he was a prankster. That was an aspect of his personality never exploited, however, until "Airplane!" was released in 1980 and became a huge hit.

As the doctor aboard a plane in which the pilots,

and some of the passengers, become violently ill, Nielsen says they must get to a hospital right away.

"A hospital? What is it?" a flight attendant asks, inquiring about the illness.

"It's a big building with patients, but that's not important right now," Nielsen deadpans.

When he asks a passenger if he can fly the plane, the man replies, "Surely you can't be serious."

Nielsen responds: "I am serious, and don't call me Shirley."

Critics argued he was being cast against type, but Nielsen disagreed.

"I've always been cast against type before," he said, adding comedy was what he'd really always wanted to do.

It was what he would do for most of the rest of his career, appearing in such comedies as "Repossessed" (a takeoff on the demonic possession movies like "The Exorcist") and "Mr. Magoo," in which

he played the title role of the good-natured bumbler.

Nielsen did play Debbie Reynolds' sweetheart in the popular "Tammy and the Bachelor," a loanout to Universal, and he became well known to baby boomers for his role as the Revolutionary War fighter Francis Marion in the Disney TV adventure series "The Swamp Fox."

Unhappy with his roles at MGM, he asked to be released from his contract. As a freelancer, he appeared in a series of undistinguished movies.

"I played a lot of leaders, autocratic sorts; perhaps it was my Canadian accent," he reasoned.

Meanwhile, he remained active in television in guest roles. He also starred in his own series, "The New Breed," "The Protectors" and "Bracken's World," but all were short-lived.

Then "Airplane!" captivated audiences and changed everything.



AP

This 1988 file photo provided by Paramount, shows actor Leslie Nielsen as Lt. Frank Drebin in the movie "The Naked Gun: From the Files of Police Squad!"

Producers-directors-writers Jim Abrahams, David and Jerry Zucker had hired Robert Stack, Peter Graves, Lloyd Bridges and Nielsen to spoof their heroic TV images in a satire of flight-in-jeopardy movies.

After the movie's success, the filmmaking trio cast their newfound comic star as Detective Drebin in a TV series, "Police Squad," which trashed

the clichés of "Dragnet" and other cop shows. Despite good reviews, NBC canceled it after only four episodes.

"It didn't belong on TV," Nielsen later commented. "It had the kind of humor you had to pay attention to."

The Zuckers and Abraham converted the series into a feature film, "The Naked Gun," with George Kennedy, O.J. Simpson and Priscilla Presley as Nielsen's co-stars. Its huge success led to sequels "The Naked Gun 2 1/2" and "The Naked Gun 33 1/3."

His later movies included "All I Want for Christmas," "Dracula: Dead and Loving It" and "Spy Hard."

Between films he often turned serious, touring with his one-man show on the life of the great defense lawyer, Clarence Darrow.

Nielsen was born Feb. 11, 1926 in Regina, Saskatchewan.

He grew up 200 miles south of the Arctic Circle at Fort Norman, where his father was an officer of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.



# 'Harry Potter' leads holiday weekend with 50.3M

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A fairy-tale princess gave young wizard Harry Potter a run for his money at the weekend box office.

"Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1" remained the No. 1 movie with \$50.3 million over Thanksgiving weekend, closely followed by the animated musical "Tangled" with \$49.1 million, according to studio estimates Sunday.

The next-to-last "Harry Potter" movie raised its domestic total to \$220.4 million after just 10 days in theaters, according to distributor Warner Bros. The film also has taken in \$389.2 million overseas, giving it a worldwide total of \$609.6 million.

"Tangled" is the latest Disney cartoon musical, with Mandy Moore providing the voice of fairy-tale princess Rapunzel.



In this film publicity image released by Warner Bros. Pictures, Robbie Coltrane, left, and Daniel Radcliffe are shown in a scene from "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1."

gled" had matched the \$34 million debut of its hit "Enchanted" over Thanksgiving 2007. "Tangled" not only shot past that mark but also challenged "Harry Potter" for the No. 1 spot.

"That was the last thing we were thinking of, but it sure is nice to be even thought of in that situation," Viane said. "Potter" is such a huge hit. To be that close, it was amazing."

Three other new wide releases had so-so openings, led by Christina Aguilera and Cher's song-and-dance tale "Burlesque" at No. 4 with \$11.8 million for the weekend and a five-day total of \$17.2 million since premiering Wednesday.

Jake Gyllenhaal and Anne Hathaway's romance "Love & Other Drugs" debuted at No.

end and \$12.2 million since its Wednesday debut.

With a \$125 million opening weekend, "Deathly Hallows" had the biggest start yet for the franchise about the young wizard. Its 10-day total also surpasses the previous high of \$201 million set by "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire" and last year's "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince," according to Warner Bros.

"That kind of tells you how big the last 'Potter' is going to be," said Jeff Goldstein, general sales manager for Warner Bros. "If you look at films like 'Lord of the Rings,' when you get to the last one, anticipation is just overwhelming."

"Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2," the final install-

The movie raised its five-day total to \$69 million since opening the day before Thanksgiving.

While "Deathly Hallows" continued to work box-office magic, Disney's "Tangled" far exceeded industry expectations, delivering the second-biggest Thanksgiving debut ever behind "Toy Story 2," which had a \$57.4 million opening.

Disney head of distribution Chuck Viane said the studio would have been happy if "Tan-

1. "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1," \$50.3 million.
2. "Tangled," \$49.1 million.
3. "Megamind," \$12.9 million.
4. "Burlesque," \$11.8 million.
5. "Unstoppable," \$11.75 million.
6. "Love & Other Drugs," \$9.9 million.
7. "Faster," \$8.7 million.
8. "Due Date," \$7.3 million.
9. "The Next Three Days," \$4.8 million.
10. "Morning Glory," \$4 million.

6 with a three-day haul of \$9.9 million and a total of \$14 million since opening Wednesday.

Dwayne Johnson's action tale "Faster" opened at No. 7 with \$8.7 million for the week-

ment, hits theaters next July.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com. Final figures will be released Monday.

## Cher is back in 'Burlesque'



Cher, left, and Christina Aguilera, cast members in "Burlesque," pose together at the premiere of the film in Los Angeles, Monday, Nov. 15, 2010.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Getting Cher to commit to "Burlesque" took some doing.

"I drove all of them crazy," Cher recalled. The big-screen musical, about a veteran nightclub performer and the newcomer she takes under her wing, was already well on its way. Co-star Christina Aguilera was in place. And, for a while, so was Cher, marking her first major feature-film role since 1999's "Tea with Mussolini."

Then she changed her mind, explaining that her character "wasn't exactly who she turned out to be on screen, and I needed

her to be that character."

That's when the director and the head of the studio resorted to stalking Cher.

"I mean, I never thought, 'Oh my God, why haven't I done a movie lately?'" Cher said. "There just was nothing. There was one movie with Meryl (Streep), 'Mamma Mia!' but I couldn't, because I was on tour. And then this (movie) came up."

Shortly after getting word Cher had changed her mind, writer-director Steven Antin and Screen Gems chief Clint Culpepper got word she was doing dubbing work just steps

away from their offices on the Sony lot. "There we were, stalking Cher for an hour and a half," Antin recalled. "It was insane."

The two convinced Cher to come up and see storyboards detailing Antin's vision for the movie. "We said, 'Five minutes,'" Antin remembered. She stayed three hours and, again, agreed to sign on.

Two days later, she was off again, but not forever.

"Well, Clint doesn't let you say 'no,'" Cher said, with a laugh. "And I wanted to sing in a movie."

She has two numbers in "Burlesque," including a ballad, "You Haven't Seen the Last of Me," to which Cher could relate. "I have had so many dips in my career and so many times where I thought, 'How am I going to get this back? What am I going to do?'"

The 64-year-old Cher said she's well aware of the country's current economic woes, and that she hopes "Burlesque" provides at least a little break from that harsh reality.

"There's something fun about losing all of your problems for the amount of time that you're in this film," she said. "You just look at (the characters and say), 'What a great time. I'm part of it.'"

And—at last—so was Cher.

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**Tangled**  
 Fri and Sat 1:20 4:20 7:20 9:40  
 Sunday 1:20 4:20 7:20  
 Mon through Thurs 4:20 7:20  
**Mandi Moore, Zachary Levi**  
 Children's, Family • Rated PG

### Synopsis

The classic Brothers Grimm fairy tale gets a lavish CG makeover as directors Glen Keane and Dean Wellins team to tell the tale of a fair-haired beauty with long-flowing locks, a gallant hero with a heart of gold, and the evil witch who plots to keep these lovelorn innocents apart.



**Faster**  
 Fri and Sat 1:30 4:30 7:30 9:55  
 Sunday 1:30 4:30 7:30  
 Mon through Thurs 4:30 7:30  
**Dwayne Johnson, Billy Bob Thornton**  
 Action, Drama • Rated R



**Burlesque**  
 Fri and Sat 1:05 4:05 7:05 9:45  
 Sunday 1:05 4:05 7:05  
 Mon through Thurs 4:05 7:05  
**Cher, Christina Aguilera**  
 Musical • Rated PG 13



**Harry Potter & The Deathly Hallows 1**  
 Fri and Sat 1:00 4:00 7:00 10:00  
 Sunday 1:00 4:00 7:00  
 Mon through Thurs 4:00 7:00  
**Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson**  
 Fantasy, Children's, Family • Rated PG 13

### Synopsis

The final chapter of the Harry Potter saga comes to the screen in this feature adaptation of the popular novel by children's fantasy author J.K. Rowling, with series veterans Steve Kloves and David Yates writing and directing, respectively. The Deathly Hallows will be split up into two films, with Part 2 set for release six months later.



**The Next Three Days**  
 Fri and Sat 4:10 9:50  
 Sunday 4:10  
 Mon through Thurs 4:10  
**Russel Crowe, Elizabeth Banks**  
 Thriller • Rated PG 13



**Skyline**  
 Fri and Sat 1:10 7:10  
 Sunday 1:10 7:10  
 Mon through Thurs 7:10  
**Donald Faison, Eric Balfour**  
 Science, Fiction • Rated PG 13



**Unstoppable**  
 Fri and Sat 1:25 4:25 7:25 9:35  
 Sunday 1:25 4:25 7:25  
 Mon through Thurs 4:25 7:25  
**Denzel Washington, Chris Pine**  
 Action • Rated PG 13



**Megamind**  
 Fri and Sat 1:15 4:15 7:15 9:30  
 Sunday 1:15 4:15 7:15  
 Mon through Thurs 4:15 7:15  
**Will Farrell, Tina Fey**  
 Comedy, Children's/family • Rated PG

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# 'Garfield' fans become part of strip

"SNOWCATS NEED LOVE TOO" STARRING GARFIELD AND JIM DAVIS



In this publicity image released by Paws, Inc., comic strip creator Jim Davis is shown in a personalized strip for his Garfield comic.

By **MATT MOORE**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**PHILADELPHIA** (AP)—Chances are you know Garfield, the orange tabby with the low-key world view whose sardonic wit has been a staple among comic strips for more than three decades.

Now fans can get even closer to the cat and his so-called owner, Jon Arbuckle, in a move that blends real photos with creator Jim Davis' signature art in an era of motion-comics and instant gratification.

The series of animated Garfield comic strips are available online now at [www.pixfusion.com](http://www.pixfusion.com) and, shortly, on iPhone and iPad. Other mobile platforms are in the works.

The process is simple: Upload a photo of yourself, a family member or friend and you can place it in one of several strips already available. Instead of Arbuckle's

or veterinarian Liz Wilson's head, your photo is the picture.

A four-pack of animated comics will cost 99 cents to personalize and can be streamed. Or users can download the finished product and share it for a cost of \$3.99. For \$9.99, fans can personalize as many of the strips—all of which have appeared on the comics pages—as they want and stream them for a year. They can be saved, streamed or posted to Facebook and elsewhere.

Jim Davis, who created the cat decades ago, said he embraced the opportunity to put readers in his strips, noting that his cat has long had a habit of breaking through the fourth wall and addressing readers directly.

"It's really a nod to where the industry is going," Davis said in an interview from his studio in rural Indiana. "I'm talking about enter-

tainment in general—TV, movies, newspapers, journalism, cartooning. Everything is going online."

He said that "this interaction with the public, with the fans, can be a very healthy thing and can be great fun. It really brings intellectual properties like 'Garfield' to the public in a very personal way."

Rich Collins, chief executive of Big Tent Entertainment, which developed the personalization technology, said letting readers insert themselves into their favorite comic strips helps meld the notion of the printed page with an immersive experience.

"This is a classic case of old school meets new tech," he said. "We're taking a comic strip that's been around for 30 years but is still relevant and we're putting it into what is a very new technology and into a mobile sort of app and then we're per-

sonalizing it."

Garfield is one of the most enduring strips in the industry. It appears daily in some 2,400 newspapers and has produced numerous books, animated specials and a pair of big-screen films with Bill Murray providing the feline's voice.

As to why "Garfield" was picked, Collins said a list of potential characters was drawn up and the cat was always atop it.

"He hates Monday, he hates diets and exercise. He's very funny, he's witty, he's able to handle difficult situations well," Collins said. "We thought it's a perfect brand to personalize because people relate to him."

The first batch of strips focuses on the upcoming holidays, but Collins said the next will revolve around Valentine's Day and, of course, love.

## U2's Bono, The Edge talk about making 'Spider-Man'

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Creating a megamusical is no easy feat, even in the hands of U2 megastars Bono and The Edge.

"Easier than we could ever have imagined. Harder than we ever thought," says Bono, resting on a Times Square hotel bed near where "Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark" is readying for its first preview.

"I mean, easier in the sense that the music came to us effortlessly. Dreaming up the show, the scale of it, the flying sequence, the pop art opera that it is—that was all pure joy," he adds. "What we didn't realize was how difficult it is to stage this stuff, both technically and financially."

It's been a long, strange trip for the Irish rockers' first attempt at a Broadway show. But the end is in sight: Years of delays and behind-the-scenes shake-ups will end Sunday when the public finally gets to see the reported \$60 mil-

lion musical for the first time. The first preview is naturally sold out.

"Is there jeopardy?" asks Bono, U2's main songwriter and lead singer. "Yes. Because it's technically very difficult. It has never been achieved before—the kind of scale of what we're looking for. There may be very good reasons. We're going to find out. The expense of it? A lot of it was the delays."

He and The Edge, the band's lead guitarist, signed on back in 2002 to write the score in partnership with co-writer and director Julie Taymor, the Tony Award-winning creator of the Broadway hit "The Lion King." The death of a key producer slowed the production for nearly two years while raising money, and the sheer size of the show—enormous sets, a 41-member cast and aerial stunts—needed time to perfect.

"If the rabbit comes out of the hat, we will be, I think, rewarded.

If the rabbit comes out of the leg of the trousers, we could be figures of fun for a few days. Or worse. Maybe looking for a job," he says.

The musical has 40 pieces of music in total, including 18 songs. Only one tune—the glam rocker "A Boy Falls From the Sky"—is widely known, but Bono and The Edge say the show's music runs the gamut from garage rock ("Dancing Off the Walls") to choral arrangements. Only four or five are rock songs and the musicians want to dispel the notion that they've created a rock opera similar to The Who's "Tommy."

"It's much more varied than anything we would ever achieve or set out to do with U2," says The Edge. Adds Bono: "There's big, otherworldly melodies. There's dance numbers. There's experimental, avant-garde, jagged metal pieces."

The music for the show will

be performed live from an 18-member orchestra in two rooms backstage. Two musicians from the band Carney will be on stage alongside their lead singer, Reeve Carney, who plays Peter Parker/Spider-Man.

Bono says only two songs had their start before the project began and the rest were custom created for the show. Sometimes, he and The Edge would come up with an idea for a song, and other times the scene came first.

"We would always defer to the needs of the story and characters," says The Edge. "It was a fun project and it was in that spirit of fun and just letting your imagination go off that a lot of this stuff came together."

They hope the experience will unlock the songwriting and expand their vocabulary—or at least shake things up—when they rejoin bassist Adam Clayton and drummer Larry Mullen Jr. in U2.

## Parents try to counter kids' claim of 'all my friends can'

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



**DEAR ABBY:** My children think that "because their friends can" they should be able to get, buy or do something. I encounter this problem often, especially when it's bedtime.

My children are 10 and 13, and they need to learn to appreciate the good parents they have because we

don't give in to all of their requests. Abby, any suggestions that may help us with this situation would be appreciated.

GOOD PARENTS IN WOODSTOCK, ILL.

**DEAR GOOD PARENTS:** At 10 and 13, your children are old enough to understand the concept that not all families are alike. Because a friend of theirs enjoys a privilege or has something they don't have does not mean that your children must.

I wish you had been more specific about the problem that occurs at bedtime. If they are arguing about the hour, they need to understand that for them to perform well in school they need a solid night's sleep. It is well-known that sleep-deprived kids can't learn.

If your children are asking for "things," then let me remind you that parents who grant a child's every wish fail to teach that child one of life's most important lessons: how to cope with disappointment. So please don't feel guilty about drawing the line, or asking your children how they plan to earn whatever it is they're asking for.

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** I am a 20-year-old college student who has found the man of my dreams. We have been dating for a year and a half and have been through a lot together. We both believe it is acceptable (and in our case, preferable) for a woman to be a stay-at-home mother and wife. I do not have a problem with having dinner on the table when he arrives home.

However, the number of people who have deemed our views "unacceptable" and "disgraceful" is astounding. I was actually spat on by a woman who accused me of being "the problem with women." She called me "weak" and a disappointment to womanhood across the nation. I'm so offended by her attack.

Am I wrong in thinking it is fine for a woman to be taken care of by her husband? Should I feel the need to be a working mom and wife? Am I too traditional for modern times? Please help me to see the whole picture.

LUCKY LADY IN LARAMIE

**DEAR LUCKY LADY:** The personal attack on you was uncalled for, and the woman who spat on you was hardly a role model for liberated women across the nation. Whether you choose to try to juggle a marriage and a career is a personal decision. Not every woman is able to manage it successfully.

That said, many households in the U.S. are headed by single women, and it usually wasn't a matter of choice. That's why it's so important for women to complete their education before being married and to be qualified for a career should the need arise. And it's also why having a prenuptial agreement in place before heading for the altar is advisable.

While it isn't wrong to think it is fine for a woman to be taken care of by her husband, the truth is it doesn't always work out that way. And it couldn't hurt you to have a few years of work experience before starting a family—just in case.

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

*To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby - Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)*

## SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

### Actor playing dying Freud collapses on NYC stage

**NEW YORK** (AP)—An actor playing a dying Sigmund Freud has been sent to the hospital after collapsing on stage in New York City. The New York Times reports that the life-imitates-art incident happened during Saturday's matinee performance of "Freud's Last Session" on the Upper West Side. The play imagines a meeting between Freud and "Chronicles of Narnia" author C.S. Lewis shortly before Freud's death. Actor Martin Rayner, playing Freud, rose from an armchair and fell to his knees. Mark Dold, who plays Lewis, asked if a

doctor was in the house. Stage manager Kate J. Cudworth says a doctor went on stage and sat with Rayner. Rayner was taken to St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center. Cudworth says he was conscious and alert. An understudy played Freud on Saturday evening, but Rayner says he hoped to be back Sunday.

### Borders to offer \$15 gift cards for public schools

**NEW YORK** (AP)—The much discussed documentary "Waiting for Superman," which offers a harsh portrait of the country's public schools, has inspired a promotional collabo-

ration among the Borders Group superstore chain, an education fundraiser and the publisher of the movie's companion book. On Dec. 4 and Dec. 5, any Borders customer making an in-store purchase, whether of a book or a bagel or a latte, will receive a \$15 gift card to donate to a public school of choice through DonorsChoose.org, an Internet-based charity. Anyone purchasing the book "Waiting for 'Superman': How We Can Save America's Failing Public Schools" will receive a second \$15 card. The companion text was published by PublicAffairs, part of the Perseus Books Group, which along with Borders and DonorsChoose.org announced the campaign Sunday.



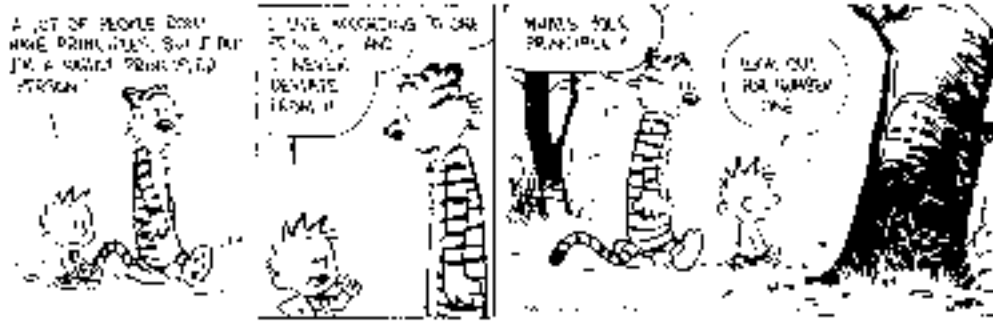
# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

## Garfield®

By Jim Davis

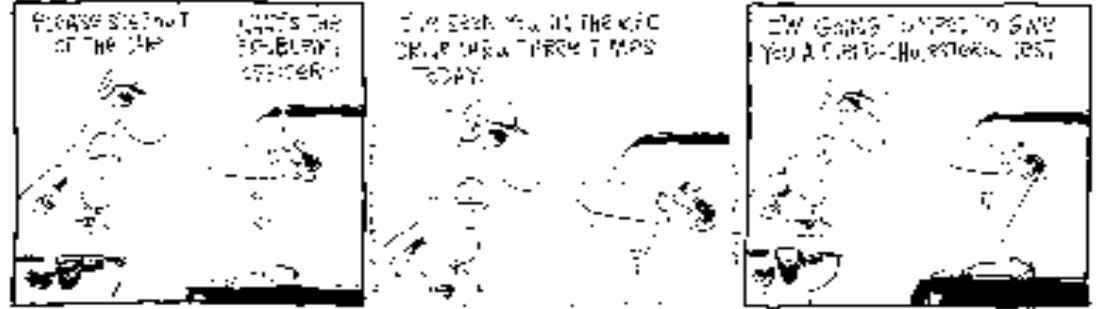


## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Small bunny  
5 Banned pesticide  
8 Division word  
12 Andy's cat  
13 La...  
14 Well  
15 Sucker  
17 Hardly subtle  
18 Single  
19 Figures of speech  
21 Speak (ent)  
24 Advertise  
25 Old Italian money  
26 Reinvested money  
30 One of Churchill's  
31 One of Donald Duck's nephews  
32 "So" all  
33 Something retained from before

**DOWN**

1 Chair  
2 Onychia  
3 "Help!"  
4 Off the boat  
5 Power symbol  
6 Female deer  
7 Michael Jackson classic  
8 Deep red  
9 Famous blue  
10 Squared  
11 Spheres  
16 Can prov  
20 As required  
21 Mediocre

**22 Long cat for short**  
**23 Caspian Sea leaper**  
**24 Strength**  
**26 Staged a mutiny**  
**27 Ensign**  
**28 Always**  
**29 Authentic**  
**34 Thingamajig**  
**35 Lander's land**  
**37 Final**  
**38 "Pyram"**  
**39 Out of "Iron Chef"**  
**40 Fatigued recipient**  
**41 Crafts**  
**44 Whimsical vessel**  
**45 Hello, X!e**  
**46 Bygone days, in bygone days**  
**47 Catcher in the ...**

**Solution time: 21 mins.**

**Yesterday's answer: 11-33**

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Kaley Cuoco, 25; Clay Aiken, 32; Ben Stiller, 45; Billy Idol, 55

**Happy Birthday:** Concentrate on career and status this year. The more you engage in activities that you believe in or feel can do some good, the higher your profile will become and the better your chance of moving into a leadership position. A partnership will enable you to reach more people both personally and professionally. Your numbers are 8, 13, 24, 26, 31, 40, 44

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Don't look for trouble or more responsibilities. Vacation plans can be made but don't go over budget or you will not enjoy your holiday. Size up a situation at work but don't take action just yet. \*\*\*

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Someone may try to twist your words. Be ready to clarify exactly what you mean. Good fortune will come your way if you do the best job possible. Don't let a pushy competitor steal your thunder. \*\*\*

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Take a look at your financial situation and budget well. Now is not the time to be loose with your cash or too generous with others. Refrain from verbally responding to a situation before having all the facts. \*\*\*\*\*

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Take on a new hobby or pick up a new skill that will make you more marketable. Strain to obtain anything that will give you an edge over the competition. Don't let negativity take over. \*\*



**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Trust in your own assessment of any situation you face. A problem at home or with family may lead to additional responsibilities. Don't be afraid to ask for help or to delegate jobs. \*\*\*\*



**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** You'll be faced with a judgment call that will influence your residence and domestic life. Don't be too hard on someone having trouble concentrating on what's important to you. Bad memories will haunt you if you don't come to terms with them. \*\*\*



**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Don't limit what you can do because you don't feel motivated. Push a little harder to accomplish your goals. You have too much going for you to hide it away in a dark corner until you feel more personable. There is nothing you cannot master if you put your mind to it. \*\*\*



**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Get involved in something that excites you. A creative outlet will do you a world of good and will help you decide what you want to do next in the real world, as well. You don't need structure, you need playtime. \*\*\*\*



**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Don't let your imagination get the better of you. Look at the facts before you go off on a tangent and make a fuss over nothing. Emotional upset is apparent, along with sudden changes. Listen, observe and learn from the past so you don't make a mistake you'll regret. \*\*



**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Making a move before you are ready will lead

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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to confusion. A past partner will want to touch base. Before you decide to get together, recall why you don't see more of this person and consider whether or not it's a good idea. \*\*



**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** A reserved approach to festivities will ensure that you head into the new year in good financial standing. Don't let anyone guilt you into buying something you don't need. Trust your instincts. \*\*\*\*\*



**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Don't let an impulsive move someone makes cause you to follow suit. A change will lead to an interesting new friendship with someone who has plenty to offer. Handle your current situation responsibly. \*\*\*

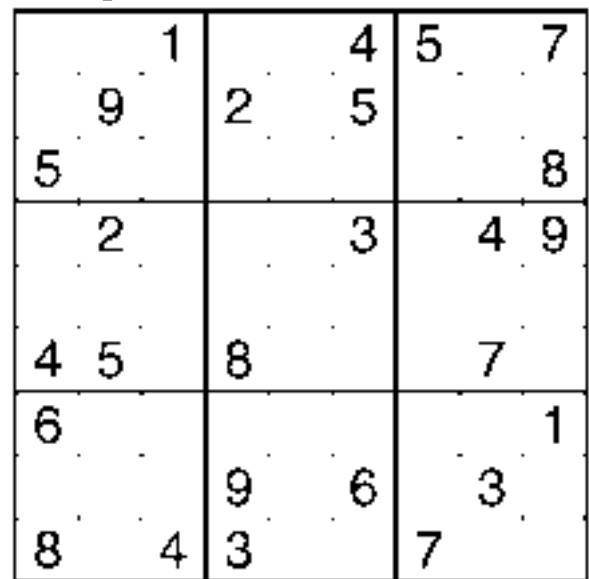
**Birthday Baby:** You are quick to respond and like to make a big, bold statement personally, professionally and emotionally. You easily drum up the assistance you require to get ahead.

Eugenia's Web sites: [eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com) for confidential consultations, [myspace.com/eugenialast](http://myspace.com/eugenialast) for Eugenia's blog, [astroadvice.com](http://astroadvice.com) for fun

## SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

6	7	5	3	1	8	4	9	2
3	1	9	2	4	7	6	8	5
8	4	2	9	5	6	1	3	7
1	5	7	6	9	2	9	2	3
2	8	6	5	3	1	9	7	4
4	9	3	6	7	2	5	1	6
7	3	1	4	6	9	2	5	8
5	2	4	1	9	3	7	6	9
9	6	8	7	2	5	3	4	1

Difficulty Level ★★

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## WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLE

How to Play: A word is hidden in each of the letters only to the left of the word. The word is hidden in the letters only to the left of the word.

Example: P H O R A M F A T K S R I I

P	H	O	R	A	M	F	A	T	K	S	R	I	
A	A	E	L	E	O	F	O	L	F	A	V	O	H
T	N	R	Q	S	C	T	S	L	S	S	L	X	
T	D	I	T	B	I	S	E	M	A	T	P	T	R
E	M	I	F	Y	A	I	E	D	O	I	A	E	A
P	A	U	S	C	T	L	N	R	T	S	O	N	P
M	D	A	I	L	N	I	F	A	T	M	G	O	R
U	F	I	T	A	F	F	F	B	E	N	C	H	F
R	G	R	I	S	R	I	F	I	Q	N	I	S	I
C	L	A	S	S	I	N	G	U	J	U	F	A	L
H	U	R	B	Y	L	E	A	K	O	Q	I	C	R
E	D	O	K	O	E	E	N	D	O	N	R	E	V
A	V	N	G	K	M	R	T	O	R	I	O	A	K
M	I	D	O	C	C	P	H	C	R	Z	H	Y	
P	U	D	O	I	N	G	S	P	N	L	I	D	Y

Yesterday's Answer: New Jersey

For more information, visit [www.wonderword.com](http://www.wonderword.com)

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## STUMPED?

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**Saipan Tribune**



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• 5-Liner	<b>\$24</b>	<b>\$39</b>
• 3-Liner with picture	<b>\$24</b>	<b>\$42</b>
• 5-Liner with picture	<b>\$36</b>	<b>\$57</b>

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Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:  
■ All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

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Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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# WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

**D**

**I**

**G**

**I**

**T**

www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in this section



# Nuggets survive Suns sans Anthony



**DENVER (AP)—**J.R. Smith scored a season-high 30 points as the Denver Nuggets overcame the absence of Carmelo Anthony to hold off the Phoenix Suns 138-133 Sunday in the highest scoring game in the NBA this season.

Chauncey Billups returned to the lineup after missing three games with a sprained right wrist and had 25 points and eight assists for the Nuggets.

Anthony was feeling ill Friday against Chicago but still played and hit the winner in the final seconds. Sunday he lasted just 2:48 before sitting down for good.

Jason Richardson did his best to keep Phoenix in it with 39 points, and Steve Nash had 17 points and 11 assists.

Nash missed a 3-pointer with 17.8 seconds left that would have tied the game.

The Nuggets were ahead 115-99 when the Suns scored nine straight to get back in it. Smith and Arron Afflalo hit 3-pointers to keep the lead at nine, but Richardson hit two from long range to cut it to five with 2:08 left.

After Smith missed on a 3, Nash drained one to make it 128-125 with 1:35 left.

Billups answered with a layup and Smith hit two free throws, but Richardson hit his seventh 3 of the night to cut it to four.

Smith missed two free throws with 28.9 seconds left and Nash's three-point play with 22.5 seconds left made it 132-131. Billups hit two free throws and after Nash missed a wide-open 3 that would have tied it, the Nuggets closed it out from the line.

The Suns got as close as eight in the third quarter before the Nuggets pulled away. Six straight free throws got the lead to double digits and Smith hit one of his five 3-pointers to stretch the lead to 14. Two 3-pointers and a bucket by Shelden Williams made it 101-84 with 2:12 left in the second quarter.

The season's previous highest-scoring game was Golden State's 132-128 win in regulation over Houston on Oct. 27. Anthony's streak of scoring in double digits ended at 134. The last time he failed to score at least 10 was against Houston on Nov. 30, 2008, when he had just two points. Hakim Warrick replaced Hedo Turkoglu in the Suns' lineup. Turkoglu, who started the first 16 games, finished with 13 points. The Nuggets' last win over Phoenix was Dec. 12, 2009.

## Pacers 95, Lakers 92

At Los Angeles, Roy Hibbert had 24 points and 12 rebounds as Indiana got its first victory over the Los Angeles Lakers at Staples Center.



Phoenix Suns guard Jason Richardson (23) pushes against Denver Nuggets guard J.R. Smith (5), both leading scorers for the teams, during the third quarter of an NBA basketball game in Denver, Nov. 28, 2010. Nuggets won, 138-133. Richardson with 39 points and Smith with 30.

Danny Granger added 18 points for the Pacers, who had lost 11 straight to the Lakers on the road since Feb. 14, 1999, shortly before Staples Center opened.

Kobe Bryant scored 23 of his 41 points in the second half for the Lakers, but he missed two tying 3-point attempts in the final seconds.

Darren Collison scored 14 points for the Pacers, who have stayed competitive despite their obvious lack of offensive firepower this season by playing stellar defense. Only Utah has held opponents to a lower field-goal percentage this season than Indiana and the Lakers, which had both allowed 43.1 percent shooting entering the game.

Pau Gasol had 13 points and 12 rebounds while getting outplayed by Hibbert down low, and Lamar Odom added 15 points and 11 rebounds in the Lakers' second straight loss after a five-game winning streak.

Los Angeles' home streak against Indiana was its longest against any opponent, but the Lakers dropped to 8-2 at home. The Pacers opened a four-game road swing with just their fifth road win over the Lakers in 38 trips.

## Spurs 109, Hornets 95

At New Orleans, Manu Ginobili scored 15 of his 23 points in the second half as San Antonio overcame a 17-point deficit to hand New Orleans its first home loss of the season.

Tim Duncan scored 21 points and Richard Jefferson added 19 for the Spurs, who matched a franchise-best 7-0 start on the road, set in the 2006-07 season.

David West scored 23 points for the Hornets, who were outscored 65-34 in the second half while losing for the first time in eight home games.

Paul added 15 points, while

Emeka Okafor and Marco Belinelli each had 12 for New Orleans.

Paul said the Hornets' defensive intensity slipped in the second half and he blamed himself for the club's lack of offensive punch down the stretch.

"We've got to execute better on offense and push the tempo. That's my fault," Paul said. "I pushed it in the first half and I guess I didn't in the second half and they were able to get their defense set. I've got to pick up the pace."

George Hill scored 12 of his 14 points in the second half for the Spurs, who increased their Southwest Division lead to two games over New Orleans and Dallas.

The Spurs entered the fourth quarter still trailing 77-72, but hit their first nine shots of the period to surge into the lead for good.

## Jazz 109, Clippers 97

At Los Angeles, Deron Williams had 26 points and nine assists as Utah won its fifth straight.

C.J. Miles scored 10 of his 14 points in the fourth quarter for the Jazz, who won their 13th in 16 games after opening the season with one-sided losses to Denver and Phoenix.

Rookie Blake Griffin had 35 points on 13 for 21 shooting, grabbed 14 rebounds and dished out seven assists for the Clippers, who have lost nine of the past 10 meetings with the Jazz.

## Knicks 125, Pistons 116, 2OT

At Auburn Hills, Michigan, Amare Stoudemire had 37 points and 15 rebounds, and Raymond Felton added 23 points and 11 assists for New York.

Danilo Gallinari hit back-to-back 3-pointers to start the second OT, giving the Knicks a 115-109 lead, and Wilson Chan-

dler followed with another 3 for a nine-point lead.

Tayshaun Prince led the Pistons with 31 points, including 21 in the fourth quarter and overtime, and Rodney Stuckey scored 29 points.

## Rockets 99, Thunder 98

At Houston, Kevin Martin scored 23 points and Shane Battier hit 4 of 6 attempts from 3-point range as Houston edged Oklahoma City.

Battier scored 18 points, Kyle Lowry had 14 points and Luis Scola 13 for the Rockets, who won their 11th straight at home over the Thunder.

Russell Westbrook had 23 points and 10 assists as Oklahoma City's road winning streak ended at five games.

## Hawks 96, Raptors 78

At Toronto, Josh Smith had his third career triple-double and Marvin Williams added 17 points and 12 rebounds as Atlanta downed Toronto.

Smith finished with 12 points, 13 rebounds and 10 assists as the Hawks won their third straight after losing seven of nine. Joe Johnson and Al Horford scored 16 points apiece.

Andrea Bargani, limited to a season-low 11 points Friday, led Toronto with 14 points, while DeMar DeRozan scored 13.

## Nets 98, Trail Blazers 96

At Newark, New Jersey, Devin Harris had 25 points, including a vital 3-pointer with 1:11 left, and eight assists to lead New Jersey.

Brandon Morrow scored 14 points and Brook Lopez added 13 for the Nets, who snapped a two-game losing streak and handed the Trail Blazers their third straight loss.

Reserve Wesley Matthews scored 25 points, Brandon Roy had 21 and LaMarcus Aldridge added 20 for the Blazers.

## Heat hold players-only meeting

**DALLAS (AP)—**One by one, the Miami Heat assistant coaches filed out of the locker room. Head coach Erik Spoelstra had already finished speaking with reporters, and still there was no sign of the Heat players. Not until some 40 minutes after the final buzzer of Miami's latest setback did the locker room finally open, revealing a team huddled in frustration.

Having apparently tired of their mediocrity, the Heat held a lengthy players-only meeting following a disheartening 106-98 loss to the Dallas Mavericks last Saturday. The Heat are now 9-8, far below their expectations for a season that began with LeBron James, Dwyane Wade, and Chris Bosh vowing to chase history.

LeBron James described the Heat's players-only meeting as "well-needed."

"It was a well-needed team meeting where everybody got an opportunity to get off what they had in their chest or what they had in their head about us figuring things out," James said. "Right now we are a 9-8 team and we have to own up to that. Does our record speak of what team we can become? No, I don't think so. We're 9-8 because we've been playing like that and we have to figure things out, which we will."

Bosh said the meeting was a "collective" decision. Wade tried to stress that the Heat started 30-20 during their run to the 2006 championship before righting themselves.

"We were just looking at each other and being honest, that's what it's all about," Bosh said. "I think when you're in situations like these and around guys all the time, you need to be honest with each other. Just talk and put our foot down about the season and put it in minds that we're better than this, and we're going to do better than this."

The Heat's frustration boiled over in the third quarter. Bosh barked at his teammates during a timeout in the third, including one moment when he and Carlos Arroyo also had words for

teammate Joel Anthony. James bumped into Spoelstra while walking to the bench during a timeout. Spoelstra didn't think the bump was on purpose, but also said, "That's the way it should be. I think we all were [frustrated]."

The Heat are now 1-7 against teams with winning records and have lost four of their past five games. When asked why this loss was the one that sparked a players-only meeting, Wade said: "We just felt like we needed it. Sometimes it's a feel."

"This is a new team, a new group of guys," Wade said. "Guys need to understand and know each other and get to hear each other talk. And I think we all feel better after the talk we have."

While the Heat's recent struggles figure to only increase speculation that team president Pat Riley could replace Spoelstra as coach, Wade said the players need to be accountable for the slow start.

"I never would put anything on the coach, win, lose or draw because they can give us the game plan, but they are not on the court playing," Wade said. "I think with this team, especially with the IQ of this team, we are smart enough to make adjustments on the floor. I don't think we are doing that as much as we want to. Now is the time to take ownership that this is our team, even though we respect our coaches for what they do."

The Los Angeles Lakers are trying to win a third straight championship and the Boston Celtics are aiming for their third NBA Finals appearance in four years. But neither of those teams have been targeted the way the Heat have since James, Wade and Bosh joined forces.

"This is a team that is new to each other," James said. "It's going to take time. But the thing we can do right now is just go out and just play, play harder, don't have any lapses. I think the fact that we know we are so talented individually, we feel we can have lapses at times."

## Cavs' coach Scott fined \$35K for criticizing refs

**NEWYORK (AP)—**Cleveland Cavaliers coach Byron Scott has been fined \$35,000 for publicly criticizing game officials.

NBA Executive Vice President Stu Jackson announced the discipline Sunday for the comments Scott made following Cleveland's 110-100 loss at Orlando on Friday.

Scott criticized officials Ed

Malloy, Bennie Adams and Kevin Fehr. He bemoaned having to play a team where "there's five white jerseys and three with stripes. ... It's hard when you're playing against eight people."

He also complained about the crew's inconsistency.

Scott had never been fined in previous coaching stints with New Jersey and New Orleans.



# Turnovers help Chargers turn back Colts



**INDIANAPOLIS** (AP)—San Diego's defense gave Peyton Manning another night to forget.

The Chargers picked off Manning four times, returning two for scores, in a 36-14 win Sunday that handed Indianapolis its most lopsided home loss since the four-time MVP has been the team's starting quarterback. The last time the Colts lost by this much at home was Sept. 14, 1997, when Seattle won 31-3.

San Diego (6-5) won its fourth straight and kept pace in the AFC West race, one game behind Kansas City.

"It's dedication to the system and tremendous on everyone's part," Chargers running back Mike Tolbert said, referring to the Chargers' playoff push. "We're not pressured at all (to win), we're just trying to get better next week than we are today."

They certainly looked good Sunday.

Manning finished 31 of 48 for 285 yards with two TDs and has thrown seven interceptions in the last two weeks - the most over any two-week span in his 13-year NFL career. Pro Bowl receiver Reggie Wayne walked off the field after getting hurt with 2:45 to go, and the Colts (6-5) finished with only 24 yards rushing.

The Colts lost their second straight but are still tied with Jacksonville for the AFC South lead, and it was every bit as ugly as the score appeared. Fans started leaving en masse when the Colts committed their fourth of five turnovers, Javaris James' fumble early in the fourth quarter.

It also officially ends the Colts' league record run of seven straight 12-win seasons.

The Chargers defense, meanwhile, was stifling.

"We just weren't sharp," coach Jim Caldwell said. "They had 20 points off turnovers and we had five of them. That's uncharacteristic for us."

Kevin Burnett returned Manning's first pick 29 yards for a score. Eric Weddle matched that with a 41-yard return in the third quarter that broke open the game. And the Chargers shut out Indy for the final 30 minutes.

Philip Rivers was 19 of 23 for 185 yards with no touchdowns and, most important, no interceptions. Tolbert rushed 26 times for 103 yards and scored on a 3-yard run early in the fourth quarter to seal the victory that put San Diego above the .500 mark for the first time all season.

But the Chargers struggled to take control early.

Manning threw a 5-yard TD pass to Jacob Tamme on the Colts' opening possession and the Chargers answered with a 28-yard field goal from Nate Kaeding.

Then things took a nasty turn for the Colts.

When Manning tried to con-

nect with Wayne between three defenders, Burnett made a leaping grab and sprinted into the end zone to make it 10-7.

Stephen Cooper picked off Manning again early in the second quarter, setting up a 33-yard field goal that made it 13-7. Manning brought the Colts back from a 16-7 deficit by throwing a 6-yard TD pass to Blair White with 22 seconds left in the half.

But the Colts never got back in the game.

Kaeding opened the second half with a 30-yard field goal, and then Weddle picked off Manning and returned it 41 yards for a TD to make it 26-14.

Tolbert sealed the win with his 3-yard run with 11:26 left.

"San Diego did a good job," Manning said. "Offensively, we didn't do a real good job. I didn't do a real good job."

## Texans 20, Titans 0

At Houston, the Texans snapped a four-game losing streak while Andre Johnson and Cortland Finnegan were ejected for a fight in the fourth quarter of a 20-0 Houston win over the Tennessee Titans on Sunday.

Arian Foster rushed for 143 yards and caught nine passes for the Texans (5-6), who posted their first shutout since 2004.

Midway through the fourth quarter, Finnegan set it off by pushing up Johnson's face mask at the line of scrimmage. Johnson ripped off Finnegan's helmet and landed at least two punches to Finnegan's head and neck. Finnegan tore off Johnson's helmet before players and referees intervened.

"He kept doing little things and I told him: 'Just because you're frustrated, you need to stop what you're doing,'" Johnson said. "I guess he thought it was funny."

The usually soft-spoken Johnson caught nine passes and a touchdown before walking off the field to a standing ovation.

"It's just a buildup of things over plays," Johnson said. "I just lost my cool."

Finnegan did not speak to reporters after the game.

"It's not good for the game, no," said Titans coach Jeff Fisher, co-chairman of the NFL's competition committee. "You don't want to see that stuff."

Arian Foster rushed for 143 yards and also caught nine passes for the Texans (5-6), who were on their way to their first shutout since 2004 when Johnson and Finnegan began slug-ging it out midway through the fourth quarter.

The two got into a milder shoving match on the previous play, with Johnson giving Finnegan a shot in the back before Finnegan took off his helmet and walked away.

Finnegan then set off the brawl by jabbing at Johnson's neck and face mask at the line of scrimmage. Johnson ripped off



San Diego Chargers running back Darren Sproles (43) is tackled by Indianapolis Colts linebacker Pat Angerer during the second quarter of an NFL football game in Indianapolis, Sunday, Nov. 28, 2010.

Finnegan's helmet and landed at least two punches to Finnegan's head and neck. The two spun each other, and Finnegan tore off Johnson's helmet before players and referees intervened.

"I awarded it to Andre on points," Texans owner Bob McNair joked.

This was Round 2 between Johnson and Finnegan. Last season, Johnson was fined \$7,500 for taking Finnegan to the ground by the face mask during a scuffle after a play in a 34-31 Texans win.

## Ravens 17, Buccaneers 10

At Baltimore, Joe Flacco threw two touchdown passes, and Baltimore won a franchise record-tying eighth straight game at home.

Flacco connected with Todd Heap for a 65-yard score and hit Derrick Mason for a 10-yard touchdown during a three-minute span of the second quarter to stake Baltimore to a 17-3 halftime lead. Flacco now has 53 career TD passes, surpassing Vinny Testaverde (51) for most in Ravens history.

Flacco completed 25 for 35 passes for 289 yards and had a 76-yard touchdown throw to Ray Rice called back because of a block in the back by Anquan Boldin.

Baltimore (8-3) improved to 5-0 at home this season and remained tied atop with the AFC North with Pittsburgh. The Ravens host the Steelers next Sunday night.

Tampa Bay (7-4) still has not

beaten a team with a winning record. The Buccaneers have lost to New Orleans, Pittsburgh, Atlanta and Baltimore by a combined 113-50 score.

Josh Freeman went 17 for 37 for 162 yards and a touchdown. Although he avoided being sacked, Freeman often was forced to throw under pressure and had only one completion of more than 20 yards.

Freeman threw a 5-yard touchdown pass to Kellen Winslow with 3:05 left to make it 17-10, but the Buccaneers didn't get the ball back.

## Bears 31, Eagles 26

At Chicago, Jay Cutler tied a career high with four touchdown passes and Chicago took sole possession of first place in the NFC North.

The win was the Bears (8-3) fourth straight and put them a game ahead of Green Bay.

Vick threw for 333 yards and two touchdowns. But he also threw his first interception in four years when he got picked off by Chris Harris in the end zone late in the first half, stopping a potential go-ahead scoring drive.

Julius Peppers had a sack for Chicago (8-3) after collecting three the previous week, and the Bears got that signature win after beating struggling teams like Buffalo, Minnesota and the injury-ravaged Dolphins.

Matt Forte ran for 117 yards - the most by anyone against Philadelphia this season. That included a 61-yarder to set up

the first touchdown. And when he wasn't running by the Eagles, Cutler was picking them apart.

## Steelers 19, Bills 16 OT

At Orchard Park, New York, Shaun Suisham kicked a 41-yard field goal with 2:14 left in overtime to lift the Steelers.

Buffalo (2-9) blew an opportunity to win it with 10:30 left in overtime. Wide receiver Stevie Johnson got in behind the Steelers secondary but dropped a 40-yard pass on the run, while he was 2 yards into the end zone.

## Falcons 20, Packers 17

At Atlanta, Matt Bryant kicked a 47-yard field goal with 9 seconds remaining to give the National Football Conference-leading Falcons their fifth straight win.

The Falcons (9-2) have their longest winning streak since 1998 and assured themselves of a third straight winning season. Of course, they have much higher aspirations sitting atop the conference standings with five weeks to go.

## Vikings 17, Redskins 13

At Landover, Maryland, Brett Favre was perfect on two scoring drives as Minnesota won Leslie Frazier's NFL head coaching debut despite Adrian Peterson's early injury.

Favre went 3 for 3 on the Vikings' opening possession, which ended with Peterson's 5-yard touchdown run. The 41-year-old quarterback was 5 for 5 on the first drive of the second half, capped by a 5-yard TD from rookie Toby

Gerhart, who took over after Peterson left in the second quarter with a bad right ankle.

## Giants 24, Jaguars 20

At East Rutherford, New Jersey, Eli Manning threw a 32-yard touchdown pass to Kevin Boss with 3:15 to play and the Giants rallied to snap a two-game losing streak and end the Jaguars' three-game winning streak.

Manning also threw a 26-yard touchdown pass to Mario Manningham, Lawrence Tynes kicked three field goals and the defense came up with three consecutive sacks and a late turnover with 1:25 to go as the Giants (7-4) rallied from an 11-point halftime deficit.

## Browns 24, Panthers 23

At Cleveland, John Kasay missed a 42-yard field goal that grazed the left upright as time expired, allowing the Browns to escape and give ex-Panthers quarterback Jake Delhomme a little satisfaction.

Kasay had a chance to win it for the Panthers (1-10) after rookie quarterback Jimmy Clausen drove them to Cleveland's 25, completing a beautiful sideline pass to Brandon LaFell with five seconds left.

## Dolphins 33, Raiders 17

At Oakland, California, Chad Henne returned from a benching and injury to throw for 307 yards and two scores, and Dan Carpenter kicked four field goals for Miami.

Davone Bess had 111 yards receiving in his first game as a pro in his hometown, and Ricky Williams ran for 95 yards and a score for the Dolphins (6-5), who won for the fifth time in six road games to keep their playoff hopes alive.

## Chiefs 42, Seahawks 24

At Seattle, Matt Cassel threw three touchdown passes to Dwayne Bowe, Jamaal Charles rushed for 173 yards and Kansas City remained atop the AFC West.

Facing Pete Carroll, his former coach at Southern California, Cassel threw for 233 yards and four touchdowns. Bowe extended his streak of games with at least one touchdown reception to seven straight. The pair connected on TDs of 7, 36 and 9 yards for Kansas City (7-4).

## Rams 36, Broncos 33

At Denver, rookie Sam Bradford threw for three touchdowns and had his first 300-yard game as St. Louis escaped with a rare road win, which came just over a day after the NFL fined the Broncos and their coach for a videotaping scandal.

There was more than a smattering of boos when Broncos embattled coach Josh McDaniels was introduced before the game.

Bradford was 22 of 37 for 308 yards, three TDs and no interceptions in his first road win as a pro.



# Pacquiao may go for historic ninth crown

**MANILA, Philippines**—Manny Pacquiao may yet go for an unthinkable ninth world title in as many divisions.

The newly crowned World Boxing Council super welterweight champion reiterated that he’s willing to face anybody, including WBC middleweight titlist Sergio Martinez of Argentina.

Martinez knocked out touted American Paul Williams in the second round on Saturday to keep his 160-pound title and line himself up for a megabuck

fight against either pound-for-pound king Pacquiao or unbeaten American Floyd Mayweather Jr.

To level the playing field, however, Pacquiao told ABS-CBN.com that the fight must not be held in excess of 150 pounds.

But the 5-foot-10 Martinez (46-2-2 with 25 knockouts) thumbed down a fight with Pacquiao, telling Boxing-Scene.com: “Pacquiao is too small. It would be a mismatch. I don’t believe that it will ever happen.”

The 35-year-old Martinez, who was stopped by Antonio Margarito in seven

rounds in 2000, said he’d prefer facing Mayweather.

Pacquiao, holder of a record eighth crown in as many divisions, dominated Margarito when they clashed for the WBC super welterweight crown on Nov. 13 at the same 150 lb catch-weight.

The Sarangani representative, who was conferred the Congressional Medal of Distinction by his colleagues also mentioned Shane Mosley and Mayweather as probable opponents.

The 31-year-old Pacquiao, who wants to keep on fighting until he’s 35,

said he’s willing to tangle with Juan Manuel Marquez for the third time, provided that there is a guaranteed purse and the Mexican’s camp handles all the promotions.

In an interview with 8countnews.com, trainer Freddie Roach mentioned Mayweather, Martinez and WBC welterweight champion Andre Berto as leading candidates to face Pacquiao next, probably in May or June.

Promoter Bob Arum said he no longer wants to pit Pacquiao against bigger opponents because they are wearing him down. **(PDI)**

## UBA caging meeting today



United Basketball Association is calling on all interested teams to attend a meeting for the 2010-2001 UBA Men’s Basketball League.

The meeting is set for tonight at

6pm at the Northern Marianas College Gymnasium.

Organizers are expected to discuss at the meeting details of the opening of the second edition of the annual league.

UBA league organizers are aiming to

have at least 10 teams compete for this season’s championship. Each team is required to play in uniforms (top only is allowed) and form a 12-man roster. Entrance fee and deadline for submission of other league requirements will be discussed in tonight’s meeting

This year’s defending champion is Prospects, who shut out the Ol’Aces in the short best-of-three series last season.

Other teams that joined the inaugural season of the UBA caging were Hoopaholics, Noni Saipan, Diamond Auto Fixers, Advance X-Terminators, Trinity Estate, Inc., and Cholos.

For more information about the upcoming UBA caging, contact James Lee at 989-UBA1(8221) or via email at [unifiedbasketballassociation@gmail.com](mailto:unifiedbasketballassociation@gmail.com). **(PR)**

## FIVE

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over Minor and Pangelinan in the other semis pairing.

In the mixed 3.0 doubles, George Poquiz and Maru Villanueva also had to play three sets before slipping past Guam’s Pulani Lansing and Brian Tuncap in the championship game.

Poquiz and Villanueva won the first set, 6-4, but muffed their chances for a sweep when the Guam young guns nailed a 6-3 victory in the second set. The deciding third set was and seesaw battle with Poquiz and Villanueva having enough juice left to eke out an 11-9 victory.

Poquiz and Villanueva also came off a three-set semis win over Ryan Cho and Carrie Schuler, 2-6, 6-4, 10-8, to march to the finals against Tuncap and Lansing, who swept Ray and Mika Gibson in the other semis pairing.

In the boys U12 doubles finals, Guam’s Pedro John and Derek Okuhama survived Saipan’s Luther Lizama and Morris Villanueva in an extended game. The Guam pair drew first blood, 6-4, but the Saipan duo recovered in the second set, 3-6. The third set was another tiebreaker game with the Guam bets escaping with a 10-6 triumph for the title.

John and Okuhama made it to the finals after downing Dylan Ackerman and Woo Sun Cho in the semis, 6-1, 6-2, while Villanueva and Lizama advanced, following a 6-2, 6-2 victory over Aaron Lee and Colin Ramsey.

The fourth third-set finale came from the boys U15, which saw Guam’s Josh Cepeda and Christian Penafiel slip past Saipan’s Jake Lee and Daniel Park, 6-7 (8), 6-4, 10-7.

The Guam players took the first finals seat after defeating Amami Sakano and Chris Cajigan in the semis, 6-3,

6-0. Lee and Park booked the second finals ticket after prevailing over Kennedy Izuka and Chris Park, 6-0, 6-4.

The boys U10 doubles finals was also played in three sets with Steven Goodwin and Michael Ren edging Clayton Izuka and Alex Park, 3-6, 6-4, 10-7.

The five other doubles championship games in Week 1 of the Tan Holdings Classic were decided in straight sets.

In the mixed 4.0 doubles finals, father and daughter Boyet and Theecel Minor swept Cleofe Santos and Ronnie Lacbayo, 6-4, 6-4. A 6-3, 6-1 semis win over Merlie Hudkins and Tony Reyes moved the Minors to the finals against Lacbayo and Santos, who topped Lydia and Jeffrey Tuttle in the other semis match, 6-2, 6-4.

In the round-robin girls U10 doubles, Malika Miyawaki and Mimi Sakano won all their two games to top the age group, while Adele Hudkins paired

with Emily Jones in tripping Tiffany Madlambayan and Isabel Heras in the girls’ U12 finals, 6-3, 6-4.

In the girls U15 doubles finals, Negahr Rastguiy and Melody Johnson joined forced in sweeping Mikayla Lopez and Alina Ishikawa, 6-4, 6-2.

The boys U18 doubles crown went to Rafael Jones and Ji Kent Kwah, who had similar 6-0, 6-0 wins in two games in the round-robin event.

Meanwhile, Tan Holdings would like to thank the following for supporting this year’s competition: Gatorade, Quality Distributors, TakeCare, Mobil, Tan Siu Lin Foundation, AON, Shirley’s Coffee Shop, IT&E, Continental Airlines, Docomo Pacific, Hertz, AMS Typhoon Shutters, Deloitte, First Hawaiian Bank, Pepsi, Miller Lite, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Pacific Islands Club, Hyatt Regency Saipan, and the American Memorial Park.

## NMBA

From Page 28

awards ceremony for the 4th Annual Traders Insurance Badminton Team Tournament at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan last Friday with NMBA president Jerry Tan saying the association will take the initiative in organizing the three-nation competition.

“This Micronesia Open will be one of the biggest projects of NMBA next year. We will coordinate with our counterparts in Guam and Palau and discuss with them how to go about the tournament,” Tan said.

“We helped Guam form its badminton group through Sandra Low, while Palau also has its own badminton association, which has been active for several years. It will be great to see three island-nations play together,” the NMBA president said.

Tan added NMBA may host the inaugural competition and then Guam and Palau will have their turns in the ensuing years.

Besides the proposed Micronesia Badminton Open, Tan hoped that NMBA will have the same tournaments it had this year next season.

These include the IT&E doubles

tournament, Tan Holdings competition, and the Traders Insurance event, which were the three major competitions NMBA had this season.

“I hope through the help of these private companies, we will continue to provide our players the tournaments they deserved,” Tan said.

The NMBA head later encouraged association members to be active not only in competitions, but also in non-badminton related activities.

“NMBA should not be only about badminton, it should also be about community involvement. A sport association can not gain respect only from

playing the game, but also from getting involve in activities in the community,” Tan said.

This year, NMBA participated in various clean up drives, held clinics in schools, and made a donation to the Marianas High School sidewalk project. The group joined the Marianas Cup Clean-up Drive and International Coastal Clean-up Day and the Fourth of July parade and donated bags of cement to MHS.

Meanwhile, Tan thanked the over 20 donors and sponsors of NMBA for making 2010 a successful year for the association.

## TEAM

From Page 28

Tony Diaz and George Masga tallied eight points apiece to keep it going for Team 1, which pulled way ahead at halftime, 64-37.

Team 1 eased up a bit after the break and allowed Jhem’s to trim eight points off its deficit. Pineda added six more markers to his total in the third quarter to help bring the count to, 80-61, in favor of Team 1, going into the final quarter.

Diaz and center Bruce Berline combined for 17 markers in the fourth quarter, as Team 1 cruised to an easy win. Diaz led all scorers with 27 points, while Abuy paced Jhem’s with 24 in the loss.

In the first game, Islander Rent-A-

Car’s Lilio Tipples paced his team with six points in the first quarter, while solid defense on the other end contained AON to just 11 points. Islander led, 25-11, in the opening period. Islander maintained a double-digit lead at the half, 41-31, surviving the nine-point production of Frank Babauta in the second canto.

Warren Villegas and Jack Palacios delivered six points apiece after the break, as Islander pushed on to a 69-47 lead, heading into the last period. AON’s Babauta added eight markers to his total in the third quarter.

Roger Valencia came off the bench and scored seven points in the fourth quarter to help seal the deal for Islander.

Villegas led Islander with 18 points, while Babauta turned in a game-high 20 in the loss.

### First Game

**Islander Rent-A-Car 90** – Villegas 18, J. Palacios 14, Tipples 14, Valencia 11, Pacheco 8, Stoll 8, Surima 8, Dionisio 4, Lopez 3, Calvo 2.

**AON 67**– F. Babauta 20, Capuyon 19, Valdez 9, Butalio 7, Santos 6, Sheibe 4, Bucalig 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 25-11, 41-31, 69-47, 90-67.

### Second Game

**Team 1 104** – Diaz 27, Berline 23, Pineda 22, G. Masga 15, Villarin 8, F. Palacios 4, Cosino 4.

**Jhem’s Restaurant 77** – Abuy 24, Banatasa 14, Verano 10, Miday 6, Poquiz 6, Salandoni 6, David 4, Favor 2, Tolentino 2, Yalung 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 35-16, 64-37, 80-61, 104-77.

## TSUNAMI

From Page 28

stroke, 25m and 100m freestyle. The 25m events are set up for beginners.

Races are open to U8, 9 to 10, 11 to 12, and 13-and-above age groups both in the girls and boys divisions. The Top 3 placers overall will receive medals. For a three-swimmer race, only the Top 2 placers will be awarded with medals and only one for a two-swimmer event.

The Top 3 swimmers in each age group will be determine via points system. Points will be awarded based on how swimmers finish the race. A first place finish will give a swimmer 10 points, eight for second, and six for third. Each participant is allowed to compete in five events.

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### NBA STANDINGS

#### EASTERN CONFERENCE

##### Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	12	4	.750	—
New York	9	9	.500	4
New Jersey	6	11	.353	6 1/2
Toronto	6	11	.353	6 1/2
Philadelphia	4	13	.235	8 1/2

##### Southeast Division

Orlando	12	4	.750	—
Atlanta	11	7	.611	2
Miami	9	8	.529	3 1/2
Charlotte	6	11	.353	6 1/2
Washington	5	10	.333	6 1/2

##### Central Division

Chicago	9	6	.600	—
Indiana	8	7	.533	1
Cleveland	7	9	.438	2 1/2
Milwaukee	6	10	.375	3 1/2
Detroit	6	11	.353	4

#### WESTERN CONFERENCE

##### Southwest Division

San Antonio	14	2	.875	—
Dallas	12	4	.750	2
New Orleans	12	4	.750	2
Memphis	7	10	.412	7 1/2
Houston	5	11	.313	9

##### Northwest Division

Utah	13	5	.722	—
Oklahoma City	11	6	.647	1 1/2
Denver	10	6	.625	2
Portland	8	8	.500	4
Minnesota	4	13	.235	8 1/2

##### Pacific Division

L.A. Lakers	13	4	.765	—
Golden State	8	9	.471	5
Phoenix	8	9	.471	5
Sacramento	4	11	.267	8
L.A. Clippers	3	15	.167	10 1/2

#### Yesterday’s Games

Atlanta 96, Toronto 78  
New York 125, Detroit 116, 2OT  
San Antonio 109, New Orleans 95  
Utah 109, L.A. Clippers 97  
Houston 99, Oklahoma City 98  
New Jersey 98, Portland 96  
Denver 138, Phoenix 133  
Indiana 95, L.A. Lakers 92

### NFL STANDINGS

#### AMERICAN CONFERENCE

##### East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	9	2	0	.818	334	266
N.Y. Jets	9	2	0	.818	264	187
Miami	6	5	0	.545	205	225
Buffalo	2	9	0	.182	229	295

##### South

Indianapolis	6	5	0	.545	282	252
Jacksonville	6	5	0	.545	240	294
Houston	5	6	0	.455	264	287
Tennessee	5	6	0	.455	257	218

##### North

Baltimore	8	3	0	.727	250	188
Pittsburgh	8	3	0	.727	254	181
Cleveland	4	7	0	.364	216	229
Cincinnati	2	9	0	.182	225	288

##### West

Kansas City	7	4	0	.636	285	231
San Diego	6	5	0	.545	310	225
Oakland	5	6	0	.455	255	256
Denver	3	8	0	.273	250	323

#### NATIONAL CONFERENCE

##### East

N.Y. Giants	7	4	0	.636	277	240
Philadelphia	7	4	0	.636	310	257
Washington	5	6	0	.455	215	262
Dallas	3	8	0	.273	256	301

##### South

Atlanta	9	2	0	.818	276	209
New Orleans	8	3	0	.727	265	197
Tampa Bay	7	4	0	.636	219	223
Carolina	1	10	0	.091	140	276

##### North

Chicago	8	3	0	.727	222	172
Green Bay	7	4	0	.636	269	166
Minnesota	4	7	0	.364	189	239
Detroit	2	9	0	.182	258	282

##### West

Seattle	5	6	0	.455	209	275
St. Louis	5	6	0	.455	213	231
Arizona	3	7	0	.300	188	292
San Francisco	3	7	0	.300	160	219

#### Yesterday’s Games

Houston 20, Tennessee 0  
Atlanta 20, Green Bay 17  
Minnesota 17, Washington 13  
N.Y. Giants 24, Jacksonville 20  
Pittsburgh 19, Buffalo 16, OT  
Cleveland 24, Carolina 23  
Kansas City 42, Seattle 24  
Miami 33, Oakland 17  
St. Louis 36, Denver 33  
Chicago 31, Philadelphia 26  
Baltimore 17, Tampa Bay 10  
San Diego 36, Indianapolis 14



# 26th Annual Mt. Tapochao Turkey Trot Fun Run

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Participants in the 26th Annual Mt. Tapochao Thanksgiving Day Turkey Trot Fun Run leave the starting line at Lower Base early Thursday morning.



Chang Wang Jang, left, and Joe Auther were among the 99 runners who joined the uphill race.



Two bikers join runners in going up Capital Hill.



Amy Sletten, left, and Melody Matson wave to the camera on their way up to Capital Hill.



Stuart Smith gasps for air, as he nears the finish line.



Jeff Race finishes ahead of youth runner Michael Mancao.



A small group of runners head up to Capital Hill.



U12 top finisher John Auther nears the finish line.



Three runners sprint to the finish line.



The top finishers in the various age groups pose for a group photo after the awards ceremony.

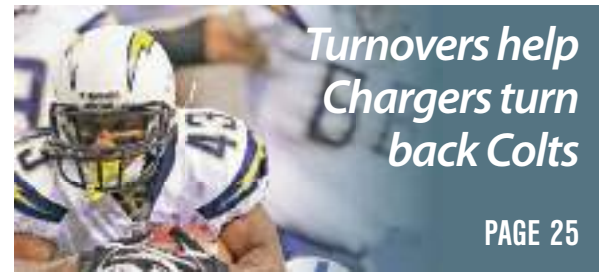




Nuggets survive  
Suns sans  
Anthony

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# Saipan Tribune Sports



Turnovers help  
Chargers turn  
back Colts

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# Five pairs pass tough test

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

**D**oubles competition in the 2nd Annual Tan Holdings Tennis Classic proved to be a tougher one, as five championship games went the distance before winners were decided.



In the centerpiece mixed open doubles played Sunday night at the American Memorial Park tennis courts, former junior player Vivian Lee and the returning Peter Loken needed three sets to thwart the pair of Micronesian Games medalists Jeff Race and Jodel Fernandez.

Race and Fernandez, who represented the CNMI in the Micro Games in August this year in Palau, took the opening set, 6-4, but failed to keep their momentum in the last two sets to drop to second place.

A similar 6-4 win in the second set allowed Lee and Loken to extend the finals. With the two teams back to square one in the third set, neither seemed willing to give up until Lee and Loken delivered in the home-stretch and pulled off a supertiebreak 10-8 triumph.

In the battle for third place, the duo of Thea Minor and Roy Pangelinan prevailed over Peter Loyola and Lydia Tan in straight sets, 6-1, 6-2.

Lee and Loken advanced to the finals after beating Tan and Loyola, while Race and Fernandez prevailed

See FIVE on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
Rafael Jones teamed up with Ji Kent Kwah in ruling the boys U18 doubles division of the 2nd Annual Tan Holdings Tennis Classic over the weekend.



## Tsunami Saipan tries again to set 100th record

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan will make its second attempt to set its 100th record when the club hosts a tournament this Saturday at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.

Tsunami Saipan launched its first bid for its 100th record early month during the

2010 Saipan Swim Club All Schools Swimming Championship, but faltered, with Ryuto Yanai the closest swimmer to almost make a new record. The 7-year-old swimmer timed in at 37.81 seconds in the 50m freestyle event, only .34 second behind the current



record of older brother Hiroto Yanai (37.47/April 4, 2004).

This weekend, Tsunami Saipan head coach Hiro Kimura is confident his wards will achieve their goal.

"I am positive we will make the 100th record for the club," Kimura said.

The Tsunami Saipan coach will be pinning his hopes on Yanai anew and will also lean on Lukas Kang, Ryosei Toda, Kaito Yanai, Angel Tan, Ken-

ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
Kai Staal will be among the Tsunami Saipan swimmers who will try to set the club's 100th record this weekend at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.

suke Kimura, and Kai Staal for the much-awaited swim mark. Since 2007, Tsunami Saipan had either posted or reset CNMI age group and national records 99 times.

A commemorative plaque awaits the swimmer who will post Tsunami Saipan's 100th the mark.

Tsunami Saipan swimmers joining this weekend meet have a whole day to make the record, as the club will be holding morning and afternoon races on Saturday.

Events in the morning include the 50m butterfly, 50m backstroke, 50m breaststroke, 50m freestyle, and 200m individual medley. In the afternoon, Tsunami Saipan has lined up the 25m backstroke, 100m butterfly, 100m backstroke, 25m and 100m breast-

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## NMBA to push for Micronesian Badminton Open

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER



Northern Marianas Badminton Association will push for the inaugural Inter-Micronesian Badminton Open next year.

The plan was bared during the

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The Black Hawks' Merlie Savellano goes for a backhand return, while teammate Oh Imbog looks on during their championship game against the Pink Dynamites in the Traders Insurance badminton tournament last week at the REM Center.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

## Team 1, Islander rout opponents

By WALTER SUTHERLAND  
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REPORTER

Team 1 and Islander Rent-A-Car triumphed over their 40A opponents, as the regular season games in the Master Basketball Federation of the NMI 2010 Memorial Cup continued last Saturday at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Team 1 pummeled Jhem's Restaurant, 104-77, in the second game of the evening, while Islander Rent-A-Car trounced AON in the curtain raiser, 90-67.

The 104 points scored by Team 1 is the highest so far made this season, passing the 102 points Armatech recorded on Nov. 16.

The win improved Team 1's record to 2-0, tying Armatech for the lead in the 40A division.

These co-leaders will face each other tonight at 8pm at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. Before this clash of the titans pairing comes a 45A tiff featuring the Kitty-Kat Ferrera Builders

(0-1) against Exclusive (0-1) at 6:30pm.

Team 1 got to work right away and amassed an early 35-16 lead in the opening period. Elmer Pineda led the charge with 10 markers for Team 1 in the first quarter. Jhem's James Abuy provided nine points, but did not receive much offensive support.

Then in the second quarter,

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE  
Tony Diaz scored 27 points in Team 1's 104-77 demolition of Jhem's Restaurant during their game in the Masters Memorial Cup last Saturday at the Garapan Basketball Court.